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TASS OBSERVER ASSAILS WEINBERGER REMARKS ON ARMS

LD281827 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1735 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, 28 Mar (TASS) -- TASS military affairs observer Vladimir Bogachev writes:

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has denied that any increase in strategic arms by the United States threatens to destablize the military-strategic situation in the world, since, he said, the USSR "knows full well that the United States will never make a first strike against the Soviet Union." Speaking in an NBC television program, Weinberger also asserted that while having the monopoly on nuclear weapons in the past, the United States allegedly "never did use them."

These declarations are unusual even for an audience which has become accustomed to the casuistic rhetoric of the present Pentagon chief. Weinberger is trying to refute generally-known facts.

In the first place, the United States senselessly used nuclear weapons against Japan in 1945 on two occasions, incinerating hundreds of thousands of peaceful inhabitants of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Second, immediately after the end of World War II the Pentagon drew up several plans for nuclear war against the Soviet Union, including the imbecile "drop-shot" plan, which envisaged carrying out "pre-emptive" first nuclear strike against the Soviet Union in approximately 1957," with the subsequent occupation of vast territories in Europe and Asia by American forces. These cannibalstic plans of Washington were foiled only as a result of the Soviet Union's elimination of the American monopoly on nuclear weapons.

Third, quite recently the United States categorically refused to follow the Soviet Union's example of assuming a precise and clear obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

Fourth, in his previous statements Mr Weinberger himself underlined that the United States would be the first to use nuclear weapons if "a threat is created to the vital interests of the United States."

Taking into account Washington's wholly arbitrary interpretation of the concept of "American vital interests," the only possible conclusion follows that the U.S. military doctrine proceeds from the admissibility of the United States making first nuclear strikes when the White House sees this as profitable.

With the arrival of Reagan in the White House the U.S. attitudes to the problem of military stability changed sharply. This problem is simply ignored in the practical actions of the White House.

Exposing the essence of the new U.S. military plans, Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in reply to questions from a PRAVDA correspondent stated:

"One cannot have such a flippant attitude to questions of war and peace. All attempts to achieve military supremacy over the USSR are futile. The Soviet Union will never allow this, it will never be unarmed in the face of any threat. Let them learn that well in Washington. It is time there to stop inventing ever new options on how best to unleash nuclear war in the hope of winning it. This is not simply an irresponsible pursuit, but a senseless one."

MOSCOW TV DERIDES NATO NUCLEAR GROUP TALKS

LD290630 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Mar 83

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] A most acute problem is the limitation of nuclear armaments in Europe. Is it possible to solve this problem? Yes, it is. How can this be done? Is there a constructive basis for this? Yes, there is. This is the Soviet proposal introduced at the negotiating table in Geneva and the initiatives formulated in the Prague Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states. Who opposes all this? Who is blocking the Geneva talks? You know the answer to this question too. It is Washington. Washington is striving at all costs to deploy its Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

The events of the past week confirmed this yet again. In Portugal, in the resort of Vila Moura, the NATO Nuclear Planning Group met last Tuesday and Wednesday. [Video shows Luns, Weinberger, official in hotel garde.] This group was set up in 1966. Its very name describes its field of activity. Fourteen defense ministers met in the suites of one of the large hotels. Their session was said to be top secret but this top secrecy must have applied only to what the ministers ordered for dinner. For the rest, what sort of top secrecy was there? The meeting had only one task: to achieve the deployment of the U.S. nuclear missiles on European soil. The Nuclear Planning Group once again proclaimed: not one missile less! Not one less of the 572!

Listen to General Rogers, supreme commander of NATO Armed Forces in Europe: In order to fulfil my duty, I would be forced at a very early stage to request permission to use nuclear weapons. What a bold general! In the face of the East's superiority, he explains, a refusal by NATO to make a first nuclear strike is impossible. Although I personally do not like it -- listen to that! Although he does not like it! -- Our defense is based on nuclear deterrence. This is a statement in the spirit of President Reagan's speech.

At the beginning of next week in Geneva, the current round of the talks on limiting nuclear weapons will end. More than a year has elapsed yet the talks are still bogged down. The Soviet Union is willing to leave exactly as many missiles in Europe as those possessed by Britain and France. The Soviet Union proposes having no nuclear weapons in Europe at all, neither medium-range nor tactical; no missiles on land, on ships or in aircraft. So it is up to Washington to respond. If the U.S. Administration, as is shown by the latest meeting of the NATO representatives in the Portuguese resort of Vila Moura, is trying to drive into its allies' heads that only the deployment of the new missiles in Western Europe can make the Russians more amenable at the Geneva talks, and if it succeeds in convincing them of this, this is another mistake on Washington's part. A timely and effective response will be given to the deployment in Europe of the U.S. nuclear missiles and to the increased threat to the security of our country and of our allies.

Among those who do not want to understand this is U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Weinberger has been given the nickname Caspar the knife by his colleagues in the U.S. Administration on account of his zealous desire to cut budgets when he held the posts of director of the Office of Management and Budget and secretary for health, education and welfare under Presidents Nixon and Ford. [Video shows photograph of Weinberger.] Weinberger's knife, however, is somewhat blunt nowadays. In 1982, when he became secretary of defense, the military leaders asked for a little over $200 billion. Weinberger managed to have this sum increased to $220 billion. For this year, he himself is asking $239 billion for the Pentagon.

From Portugal, Weinberger went on to Madrid. It is known that the socialist government in Spain is in no hurry to begin its activities in NATO. Spain only sent an observer, not a participant, by the way, to the Nuclear Planning Group session.

It has promised to hold a referendum on membership of the North-Atlantic bloc. The Pentagon is discontented with this slowness. The Pentagon wants military bases in Spain. The Pentagon is forcing U.S. weapons on Spain.

This year may be a decisive one not only for the fate of Europe. Particular importance also attaches now to the high activity of all forces for peace, the strengthening of security and an improvement in international relations. This was noted during the Soviet-Yugoslav meeting in Belgrade where Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has been on an official visit. We are convinced, he said in his speech in Belgrade, that by the joint efforts of peace-loving forces, the slide of the world toward disaster can be halted. The antiwar wave is gaining strength.

Yes, the antiwar wave is gaining strength. It is rolling from the Japanese islands to the shores of the United States. It has risen in Western Europe, this wave, from the Netherlands in the north to the Italian island of Sicily in the south. The Japanese are protesting against the entry into the port of Sasebo of the U.S. nuclear aircraft-carrier "Enterprise" and not against it alone, but also against 10 other U.S. warships. [Video shows "Enterprise."] There has not been such a thing in the whole postwar period but neither has there ever been such determination on the part of those who are protesting against this.

The participants in the antiwar movement are organizing demonstrations, meetings and marches. They are establishing tent camps where it is planned to deploy the U.S. nuclear missiles. They are lying on the tracks in front of trains of death. [Video shows antiwar demonstrators on tracks.] This happened in the United States last week. A fully-armored train was carrying 100 nuclear warheads for Trident missiles with which submarines are armed. The train's route ran from the factory in Texas to the far north-west, to a naval base.

SOVIET GENERAL ON BRITISH, FRENCH CAPABILITY

LD281238 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 1930 GMT 27 Mar 83

[Excerpts] The talks on limiting nuclear armaments in Europe have been in progress in Geneva for more than a year. The United States is actually blocking their progress by deliberately raising obstacles to the resolution of such a vitally important problem. One such obstacle is Washington's refusal to include the British and French nuclear capability in the overall NATO armory in Europe.

We have asked Major General Yuriy Lebedev, a representative of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, to comment on this matter in greater detail:

[Begin Lebedev recording in Russian with superimposed translation] The USSR stance on this question is completely clear: In order to maintain East-West medium-range parity in Europe in the event of a reduction in the numbers of these weapons, British and French weapons must also be taken into account. It must be said once and for all in this connection, however, that the USSR is merely demanding that these countries armaments be included in the overall number of medium-range weapons, without raising in Geneva the question of their reduction or limitation.

Why does the United States reject this objective attitude, which fully corresponds to the principle of parity and equal security? What arguments does the United States offer to justify such a stance? Alleging the supposedly independent nature of the British and French nuclear forces, the U.S. side proposes that their existence in Europe be disregarded on the grounds that they are intended solely to protect national interests.

But is this so? Britain is an active NATO member which consistently supports and implements the U.S. politico-military plans. Although officially not a member of the NATO military organization, France continues to engage in broad military cooperation with the North Atlantic bloc and with its member countries. The reports of the U.S. Chiefs of Staff and Defense Department show that the Pentagon never fails to include the nuclear capability of the U.S. European allies as an integral part of the West's nuclear force. Likewise the British Government's official papers also say that the British nuclear forces are part and parcel of NATO's strategic resources. Similar statements have been made by the French leaders, who have openly said that France has a powerful nuclear capability which makes a substantial contribution to the allies' common defense.

Such statements are confirmed by practical actions such as the coordination with Britain and the United States of the patrolling areas for French missile-carrying submarines in the Norwegian Sea; the operation of a joint system envisaging the participation of the submarines of all these countries in operations; and the systematic participation of the French Navy in joint NATO exercises.

The United States seeks to depict the British and French nuclear capability as very insignificant and as a deterrent of last resort. But this, too, is altogether untrue. Britain and France together have more than 250 land, sea and air-based medium-range carriers capable of delivering hundreds of warheads within a range of 4,600 km. A glance at the map will easily show that this range covers the whole European part of the USSR, not to mention the territories of its Warsaw Treaty allies. Britain and France together would deliver in a single launch hundreds -- and in the near future thousands -- of high-power warheads. The arrival of U.S. missiles for the Trident II submarines in the British nuclear force is to be expected [as heard]. Each missile will carry 14 warheads and will be virtually equivalent to the land-based ballistic missiles. In a message sent last year to the U.S. President, the British prime minister confirmed that the British submarines will be placed at NATO's disposal in the interest of the international defense of the Western alliance.

It is thus clear that the USSR and the other countries of the socialist community are confronted by a powerful West European armory of NATO nuclear weapons of which the British and French forces, forming one-fourth of the said overall armory, are an integral part. These weapons are permanently being increased and perfected.

The question arises of why the politicians in Washington, London and Paris should ask the USSR to disregard these weapons. The answer is because by comparing the Soviet nuclear capability only with the U.S. capability in Europe they are trying to ensure NATO's military superiority over the Warsaw Treaty thanks to the nuclear weapons of the U.S. allies. It is altogether clear that the U.S. ruling circles have no wish to take into account the interests of the security of the USSR and of the other signatories to the Warsaw Treaty, and that they refuse to conduct themselves in the arms negotiations in keeping with the basic principle of equality and mutual security. [end recording]

SOVIET NEGOTIATOR SPEAKS ON ARMS AGREEMENT

LD251508 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] The head of the Soviet delegation to the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe, Yuriy Kvitsinskiy, has said that it now depends on the United States whether the objective opportunity to reach agreement is used. Addressing a meeting of war veterans from many countries, he said that the Soviet Union was prepared to reach an agreement based on equality and equal security. The way to such an agreement was paved by the constructive proposals advanced by the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Yuriy Andropov, in December of last year. The Soviet Union did not want to have a single missile or aircraft more in Europe than was held by the NATO countries.

OVCHINNIKOV REVIEWS WEEK'S EVENTS IN PRAVDA

PM281255 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "International Review"]

[Text] Time Presses

The past week brought new evidence of the persistent efforts of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries to prevent the further exacerbation of the international situation, curb the arms race, and develop mutually advantageous cooperation between states. A noteworthy event during the week was the official friendly visit to Yugoslavia by N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. As the Soviet-Yugoslav talks showed, fruitful cooperation between our countries is expanding. It covers various spheres of policy, the economy and scientific, technical and cultural activity. Good prospects exist for the further development of Soviet-Yugoslav relations, and they can and must be filled with constructive, vital content.

In determining plans for the future the USSR and Yugoslavia must, of course, take external conditions into account. As was noted during the visit, 1983 could prove decisive for the destiny of Europe -- and not only Europe. The implementation of the militarist plans of the United States and the NATO bloc for the deployment of hundreds of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe would create a threat to the security of states and undermine stability on our continent.

The steady upsurge in the antiwar, antinuclear movement in Western Europe and in the United States itself indicates that increasingly broad strata of the public are aware of that danger. Even in NATO capitals calls have been heard for Washington at least to display a semblance of "flexibility," so as to cool the ardor of antiwar actions. But this has not happened. The 14 NATO defense ministers who gathered in Vila Moura in southern Portugal for the latest session of the NATO nuclear planning group only reaffirmed their adherence to the notorious "dual decision."

U.S. President Reagan's television appearance was by no means devoted to seeking ways to reach agreement. His sole aim, as Senator Cranston put it, was to "scare the American people and the Congress to death so as to extract even more money from them for military needs." Reagan called for U.S. scientific and technical potential to be used to open up new channels in the arms race, which, he said, will have to be conducted for many years or even decades to come.

Juggling with facts, the President tried to create the impression that in the military sphere the United States constantly has to catch up with the Soviet Union, although in reality it is the other way round. Suffice it to recall: Who was the first to create nuclear weapons and use them against the inhabitants of Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Who encircled the world with bases for nuclear bombers? Who initiated the building of nuclear-powered missile-carrying submarines? Who began to equip ballistic missiles with multiple warheads? Who has commenced the production of neutron weapons and is trying to spread the arms race to space?

"Damp Squib"

A 2-day meeting of the leaders of the 10 Common Market countries took place in Brussels this week. It was futile in the extreme. A "damp squib" -- that is how the French newspaper LES ECHOS described it. The resolution of the most acute problems was postponed until the next such meeting, in Stuttgart. Above all these is the question of how to reduce unemployment among young people.

There is the old battle over the community budget and the size of the British contribution to the coffers. There are the practical problems connected with the entry of Spain and Portugal into the Common Market. There is the exacerbation of contradictions between the EEC and the United States on questions of agricultural exports.

It is apposite to ask: Were the results of the Brussels meeting -- or rather its lack of results -- affected by the unique framework in which it took place? On the one hand, it was preceded by an acute upsurge in currency and financial contradictions in the community. On the other, the meeting was held on the threshold of the next conference of the "big seven" leading capitalist powers, which is to take place in May in the American city of Williamsburg.

First, let us look at the fever which gripped Western currency markets in mid-March. The wave of currency speculation against the French franc which rose up at that time can scarcely be said to have had serious economic causes. Even the main cause -- the French foreign trade deficit -- had become less acute, because the fall in world oil prices precedes a reduction in expenditure on oil purchases. So why did the currency speculators turn against the franc first and foremost?

France was the target of a mass offensive by international capitalist circles which aimed to hinder the government of the left in the implementation of the policy chosen in 1981 -- that is how French Communists access the factors underlying the currency crisis.

When Paris had to spend FR23 billion on maintaining the exchange rate of the national currency in just 1 week, people across the ocean did not lift a finger. (Although at the last meeting of the "big seven" in Versailles much was said about mutual assistance in such cases). The American press asserted in every way that the present French Government's policy is to blame for the franc's weakness.

As President Mitterrand noted the other day, in the last 14 months unemployment has increased 29 percent in the FRG, 22 percent in the United States, and only 4 percent in France. But limiting the rate of increase in unemployment required great financial efforts, which made it impossible to curb inflation quickly enough. The present course of the government of the left does indeed not conform in any way to the economic doctrines which are now preached with religious fanaticism in Washington and London. Is not that why they had the idea of teaching the "heretical" France a lesson precisely where it was most vulnerable -- on the international currency exchanges?

Making this assumption, many commentators also mention another reason why the Brussels meeting was a "damp squib." The question naturally arises: Was not the flareup in currency and financial contradictions in the Common Market deliberately provoked in order to disunite its members on the eve of the "big seven" conference in Williamsburg and prevent them from elaborating a united stance to put forward at the conference on the most acute problems of U.S.-West European contradictions?

"Pseudopeacemakers"

The leaders of the 10 Common Market countries, meeting in Brussels this week, made a statement on the Near East. They expressed serious concern at the lack of progress toward the restoration of peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors and called for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon and the resumption of talks on an all-embracing peace settlement with the participation of the PLO.

This is not a new stance for the "Ten," nor is it selfless, since Western Europe is incomparably more dependent on Arab oil than the United States is. But the Brussels statement is also duplicitous and contradictory because it extols the imaginary U.S. "peacemaking."

The U.S. Administration has indeed been portraying enhanced diplomatic activeness in the Near East recently; pretending to be trying to break the deadlock at the Israeli-Lebanese talks. As is know, progress there came to a standstill because the aggressors are trying to make their withdrawal conditional upon terms which they know to be unacceptable. They want to retain the southern part of Lebanon under their own military control, setting up a "surveillance post" there with Israeli personnel. What a paradox: The aggressor, you see, needs a "security zone" to protect him against the victim of his own aggression....

Against this background, what is the aim of American diplomatic efforts? Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir was recently invited to Washington. According to press reports it was made clear to him that the notorious "security zone" could be created without the direct presence of Israeli troops on Lebanese soil. Why not, it was said, entrust the patrolling of the southern regions of Lebanon to Major Haddad's separatists and American subunits from among the "multinational forces"?

The U.S. President's special envoy Habib recently returned to the Near East with the same idea. And this plan is clearly intended to kill two birds with one stone. First, it tempts Tel Aviv with the prospect of legalizing the military formations of the Israeli puppet Haddad, which it is proposed to incorporate in the Lebanese Army. Second, it offers a pretext for extending the zone of operation by the "multinational forces," increasing the numerical strength of American subunits in those forces, and also extending indefinitely the length of their stay in Lebanon.

Washington evidently intends to repeat the scenario which was played out last spring in the Sinai Peninsula. American troops which embarked there as part of the "multinational forces" insured Israel's Egyptian flank, so to speak, and freed Israel's hands for the strike against Lebanon. Now that the Zionist hawks are threatening Syria and preparing reprisals against the Arab population of the West Bank, their patrons across the ocean propose to create a second American covering force to safeguard the agressor's rear.

But that is only one aspect of it. Most importantly, Washington is again trying to make use of the role of "mediator" in the Israeli-Arab conflict in order to secure another bridgehead for a direct U.S. military presence in the Near East.

And the Lebanese? What is their attitude to these designs? By all appearances, their opinion is the last thing to be of interest. Tel Aviv is behaving brazenly, having an interest in ensuring that the talks continue to mark time. People in the American capital are well aware of that.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, Israel wants to delay the withdrawal of its troops from Lebanon until 1984. Then the election campaign will be launched in the United States, and the President, needing the support of the influential Jewish community, will not be able to bring himself even to make gestures purely for show in support of the Arabs -- such as the call contained in the "Reagan plan" for a freeze on the creation of Israeli settlements on the West Bank of the Jordan.

Meanwhile the colonization of the occupied lands is taking place at an accelerated rate. If Israel settles the West Bank for a few more years, the American press believes, its annexation will become a fait accompli.

The demagogic intrigues of American diplomacy clearly serve two goals at once: giving the Israeli military time to digest the spoils it has swallowed, and at the same time enabling the Pentagon to plant its soldiers' boots still more firmly in the Near East.

Intervention by Survivors

Alarming news has been coming in from Central America in recent days. Counterrevolutionary gangs which have undergone combat training under the leadership of American instructors and are equipped with American weapons have invaded Nicaraguan territory from neighboring Honduras.

The Security Council was convened urgently at Nicaragua's request in order to discuss the question of the dangerous deterioration in the situation in the region. Addressing the council's members, a Nicaraguan Government representative cited irrefutable evidence of Washington's involvement in the preparation and implementation of this armed intervention.

Subversive activity against Nicaragua has been stepped up particularly since the start of 1982, then the CIA took over the coordination of the actions of counterrevolutionary groups. Surviving remnants of the Somozists were trained in Florida and Texas and then sent to Honduras, where combat training centers, weapons dumps, and staffs were set up along the Nicaraguan border. The counterrevolutionary gangs were basically formed into a regular army equipped with modern weapons, means of communication, and transport aircraft.

As Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega noted, the current military provocation against Nicaragua, apart from its other aims, is intended to distract world public attention from El Salvador.

A hysterical ballyhoo has been created in Washington's corridors of power recently to the effect that that country is about to become the next victim of "international communism." By way of urgent measures, it is planned to increase additional military aid to the Salvadoran clique to $110 million, double the number of American advisers in the Salvadoran Army and extend their functions in punitive operations against the patriots.

Quoting Reagan's words to the effect that "U.S. national security is at stake" in El Salvador, THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper recalls that in the sixties Presidents Kennedy and Johnson put forward similar arguments in relation to Vietnam. They too sought to extend military aid to the Saigon regime, since, according to them, a threat to U.S. national security would arise if South Vietnam became the first domino to fall in Southeast Asia. And when weapons deliveries and the sending of military instructors proved insufficient, Johnson had no option but to "Americanize" the war, that is, involve a U.S. Army of half a million and crack naval and air forces in combat operations.

In order to justify the "big stick" policy on which the present U.S. Administration's strategy in the Western Hemisphere is based, they resort once again to fables about the "hand of Moscow." It is said that the Salvadoran guerrillas are led by Nicaraguans, the Nicaraguans are commanded by the Cubans, and they in their turn are subject to Soviet orders.

Even the U.S. allies recognize the absurdity of such assertions. "The prime cause of the disorders in Central America is not subversive activity from abroad," London's THE TIMES writes, for instance. "These disorders are caused by the fact that for long years the majority of the region's countries suffered from the incompetent rule of military regimes supported by the United States."

The process of revolutionary renewal in Latin America is invincible and irreversible. On the side of the Nicaraguan and Salvadoran patriots are the support and solidarity of the Soviet people and all progressive mankind.

UN'S PEREZ DE CUELLAR ON OFFICIAL VISIT

Meets Andropov, Gromyko

PM28221 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] Yuriy Andropov, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received in the Kremlin 28 March United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar staying in the Soviet Union on an official visit. Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, took part in the conversation.

The conversation that passed in a constructive and friendly atmsophere touched upon the key problems of the present-day international situation and the United Nations role in their solving.

Yuriy Andropov pointed to the dangerous character of the situation that has shaped in the world, or the whipping up of the arms race, aggravation of the international tension. He emphasized the responsibility for the preservation of peace, prevention of nuclear war which rests in these conditions on the leaders of states, as well as on the United Nations organization and pointed to a wide range of Soviet proposals aimed at the attainment of these aims.

Javier Perez de Cuellar spoke highly of the Soviet Union's efforts to lessen the danger of nuclear war. He expresaed a firm intention to promote the increase of the United Nations role in the solution of the ripe problems of the consolidation of peace and security and the development of peaceful international cooperation. Both sides emphasized the importance of the increase of the United Nations contribution to the cause of arms limitation and disarmament.

During the conversation considerable attention was paid to matters of the liquidation of the existing seats of tension in various areas of the world, particularly to the problem of peaceful settlement in the Middle East and the ways of normalising the situation around Afghanistan.

A considerable role that the United Nations is called upon to play in promoting the struggle of peoples to eliminate all the vestiges and manifestations of colonialism and racism, above all in southern Africa, was specially emphasized.

Yuriy Andropov confirmed the Soviet Union's invariable support for the efforts aimed at enhancing the role of the United Nations organization in ensuring international peace and security, in developing peaceful cooperation among states in accordance with the United Nations Charter.

A.M. Aleksandrov, assistant to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, O.A. Troyanovskiy, USSR permament representative at the United Nations, and UN Deputy Secretaries General B. Urquhart, V.A. Ustinov and D. (Kordoves) also took part in the meeting.

Perez de Cuellar Comments

LD291118 Moscow TASS in English 1109 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 29 TASS -- United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said in a TASS interview that he was extremely thankful to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee for his kind invitation which had given him an opportunity for discussing the main international problems.

I consider that the kind decision of Mr Andropov is the expression of the importance that the Soviet Union attaches to the United Nations as a mechanism of peace, detente and understanding among nations.

I must say that I spent almost two hours with the general secretary and I appreciate his knowledge of the international problems, his sharp intelligence and even his sense of humour. It was a frank, important and useful exchange of views. This meeting will facilitate considerably my task of secretary general of the United Nations as a constant channel of communication between the main powers.

The character of our discussion was an exhaustive review of the main international problems. The general secretary and myself were much concerned over the present international situation and we discussed mainly disarmament, on which we both feel that it is a problem which needs extreme attention from all the parties concerned, mainly the nuclear powers.

There was not a single important problem which was not raised by the general secretary and on which I did not express the views of the United Nations secretary general.

LATEST CSCE DISCUSSIONS IN MADRID REPORTED

LD252138 Moscow TASS in English 1949 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Madrid March 25 TASS -- During the past week of the Madrid meeting of the representatives of the countries-participants in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, there were held several meetings of heads of delegations, and active contacts between delegations and consultations were pursued in the lobbies of the Madrid forum.

As before, the attention was focussed on the updated draft final document of the Madrid meeting, recently tabled by delegations of neutral and nonaligned states.

At these meetings, representatives of neutral and nonaligned nations -- sponsors of the document -- urged new efforts for achieving agreement and completing the Madrid meeting in the coming weeks.

The head of the Soviet delegation, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Anatoliy Kovalev said, speaking at today's plenary meeting, that the Soviet side is engaged in the most careful study of the updated draft final document of the neutral and nonaligned nations, and that it scrutiny will be continued.

Today, as before, we are opposed to any forms of procrastination or, still more so, to attempts to block the work of the Madrid meetings. We speak about this because we have already repeatedly seen the tabling of proposals patently unacceptable to some of the participants. Such attempts have no prospect of success. Delaying the work of the meeting, A. Kovalev went on to say, under any pretext, is also an expression of a definite policy which is at variance with the broad interests of detente, cooperation and international security. That is why we would like to hope that the present intermission will be used for genuinely productive consultations aimed at ensuring a positive outcome of the Madrid meeting.

And in conclusion we would like once again to emphatically underscore the Soviet Union's line of implementing the Helsinki agreements, continuing and developing the all-European process, and successfully completing the Madrid meeting in the near future. We expect all other Madrid meeting participants to demonstrate the same concern, the necessary realism and political will.

The head of the Soviet delegation cordially thanked the Spanish authorities and the Government of Spain for their attention and hospitality.

K. Grigorov, head of the Bulgarian delegation, also spoke in favour of constructive efforts and an early completion of the Madrid meeting.

G. Curien, head of the French delegation, called in his statement for using the time afforded by the intermission for political consultations so that when the delegations have reconvened, effective work could be embarked upon without delay.

Under a proposal of the neutral and nonaligned states, the Madrid meeting will resume its work on April 19 of this year.

USSR DELEGATE ADDRESSES UN GROUP ON OUTER SPACE

LD241314 Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 24 TASS -- Correspondent Valentin Vasilets reports: A session of the legal Subcommittee of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space which opened here Wednesday is discussing major problems of international space law. From the very beginning of the sessions' work it became clear that there were two approaches to the solution of these problems. The United States is determined to prevent the emergence of any obstacles which may hold back the spreading of the arms race to outer space and the establishment of U.S. domination and its own norms in that new sphere of human activity in violation of the other nations sovereignty.

The Soviet Union and other socialist countries are working to formulate such principles which would accord with the interests of all states and create favorable conditions for the development of international cooperation in space.

Addressing the session, Soviet Representative R. Ovinnikov noted that one of the major areas of application of space technology was remote sensing of the earth. Space survey materials opened wide possibilities for the exploration and study of the earth's natural resources, and also for meteorology, cartography, forestry, water management, and agriculture.

The Soviet representative suggested that efforts be directed at drafting a universal document whose provisions will guide all the states in their activities in the sphere of remote sensing of the earth. He said that issues of the altitude limit of state sovereignty, and delineation of air space and outer space also demanded solution.

Pointing to a serious threat of an arms race in space, the Soviet representative stressed that it was impossible to put with attempts to create a new area of military competition [sentence as received]. In 1981 the Soviet Union proposed to draft and sign a treaty on the prohibition of the deployment of weapons of any kind in outer space. However, the drafting of that document was being blocked for two years by those who admitted, if not directly provided for, a possibility of launching lethal weapon systems into near-earth orbits.

According to GDR Representative Dietmar Schoenherr, the continuing process of detente and stability in international relations were an (?indipensible) condition for intensifying cooperation in space. He recalled that the Warsaw Treaty member-states called in their Prague Declaration for an immediate beginning of negotiations with the aim of prohibiting space weapons. Romania's Delegate R. P. Bena also stressed that space law should reflect that demand of nations that outer space be used solely for peaceful purposes.

PRAVDA REPORTS REACTION TO ANDROPOV INTERVIEW

PM291211 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS roundup dated 28 March: "To Prevent Nuclear Catastrophe"]

[Text] Yu. V. Andropov's replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions have elicited a very broad response throughout the world. Articles by leading Sunday newspapers commentators and radio and television commentaries point out that the military strategic parity that has now been achieved is a reliable guarantee of peace. No shameless distortions, to which the Washington administration resorts with a view to justifying its crazy policy of an unrestrained arms race, will be able to distort the true aims of the Soviet Union's Leninist foreign policy course. At the same time, the mass media of many countries points out, all the U.S. attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR are futile, for, as the CPSU Central Committee general secretary declared, the Soviet Union will never allow it and will never find itself unarmed in the face of any aggression.

As THE NEW YORK TIMES reports, although the White House has not yet reacted to Yu. V. Andropov replies, officials in Washington "read the text literally a few minutes after receiving it." The newspaper writes: "These officials admitted that the Reagan plan, which the Soviet leader criticized so sharply, was announced by the American President without prior discussion with the allies' leaders.... Yu V. Andropov's interview has shown that the Soviet Union's stand is uncompromising. Its tone was determined by the Soviet leader's assessment that Reagan is telling a deliberate untruth."

THE WASHINGTON POST points out in a dispatch from Moscow: "The Soviet leader Yu. Andropov accused President Reagan of using unscrupulous methods in his desire to substantiate his hegemonist claims. The realization of Reagan's concept would in fact result in the opening of the floodgates for an unrestrained race for all kinds of strategic weapons -- both offensive and defensive."

Yu. V. Andropov told PRAVDA that Reagan's new strategic concept is aimed at disarming the Soviet Union in the face of the American nuclear threat, an NBC television commentary points out. The interview criticizes Reagan's stand on military problems point by point. A commentator for another American television company -- CBS -- declared: Yu. V. Andropov accused the Washington administration of continuing to travel an extremely dangerous path, since questions of war and peace must not be treated as frivolously as Washington does. Drawing special attention to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement that the USSR will never find itself unarmed in the face of any threat, the commentator also pointed out: "As Yu. V. Andropov declared, it is time Washington stopped inventing more and more options as to how best to unleash a nuclear war in the hope of winning it. This preoccupation is not just irresponsible but also crazy. This is realized even in Washington, as CBS acknowledged, "reports of substantial opposition to the Reagan plan even in the ranks of the administration itself have already begun to appear."

Yu. V. Andropov pointed out that the program advanced by Reagan could strike ignorant people as even attractive, for the President appeared to be speaking of defensive measures, Britain's THE OBSERVER points out. But this can seem so only at first glance, and only to those who are not familiar with this question. In fact, the development and improvement of the U.S. strategic offensive forces will continue in full swing.

"The biggest danger is that the U.S. President's decision clearly hinders progress at the talks on limiting and reducing strategic arms," London's THE TIMES emphasizes. "The speech by the head of the American Administration alarmed the U.S. allies more than calming them. The peoples of the world call for an end to the arms race, not for its intensification in a new direction."

"Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, urged the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe. He resolutely urged the United States to embark on that path," France's L'HUMANITE DIMANCHE writes. Yu.V. Andropov thereby replied, the newspaper point out, to President Reagan's speech, which elicited a wave of censure in the West.

West Germany's DPA reports: In answering PRAVDA's questions the CPSU Central Committee general secretary declared that the USSR was forced to strengthen its defense capability in the face of feverish U.S. activity to deploy military bases near Soviet territory and to create more new types of nuclear and other weapons. All this was done exclusively to liquidate the American military advantage for which Washington yearns so much now.

The military-strategic parity now achieved has deprived the United States of the possibility of blackmailing the Soviet Union with the nuclear threat, Italy's ANSA points out. This parity is a reliable guarantee of peace, and the Soviet Union will do everything to preserve it. Precisely this conclusion suggests itself after you familiarize yourself with the Soviet leader's extraordinarily detailed replies to PRAVDA. In them Yu.V. Andropov rejected one by one the U.S. President's assertions regarding Washington's "imaginary inaction" in the arms sphere over the past 20 years. Italy's CORRIERE DELLA SERA writes: "The speed with which the USSR responded to Reagan's speech attests not only to the dynamic style of leadership but also to the fact that Moscow has a clear idea of the real state of affairs in the USSR-U.S. relations."

"Firm Warning to Washington!" "Sharp Criticism of the American Plan to Create New Types of Nuclear Arms," "The United States Opens the Way to an Unrestrained Arms Race" -- these are the headlines in Japan's Sunday newspapers. "Yu.V. Andropov emphasized the fact that the U.S. 'new defensive concept' sets the aim of disarming the Soviet Union in the face of the American nuclear threat," MAINICHI points out. "However, the CPSU Central Committee general secretary resolutely rebuffed President Reagan by declaring that all attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR are futile."

"Moscow has issued an appeal to mankind to realize that the American leaders' crazy plans effect the interests of all states and peoples and threaten the whole world," THE TIMES OF INDIA emphasizes.

Yu.V. Andropov's replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions have elicited tremendous interest and full support in the socialist community countries. Bulgarian newspapers appeared yesterday with the headlines "All Attempts To Achieve Military Superiority Over the USSR Are Futile," "Chief Aim Is To Prevent Nuclear Catastrophe" and "U.S. Actions Threaten the Whole World."

The problem of preserving peace and preventing nuclear catastrophe is the most acute and vitally important problem at the present time, Mongolia's MONTSAME point out in a commentary. In our time the fate of all mankind depends to a considerable degree on how seriously the countries and peoples and their leaders treat this problem. Yu.V. Andropov's replies attest to a sensible attitude to the fate of peace. The Soviet leader once again used irrefutable facts to expose the madness of the policy of the United States, which is seeking to become the dominant military power in the world. The CPSU Central Committee general secretary once again confirmed in his replies that the Soviet Union's Leninist foreign policy course is wholly and fully aimed at preventing nuclear catastrophe.

REAGAN ATTACKS CRITICS OF U.S. MILITARY PROGRAM

LD270653 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1935 GMT 26 Mar 83

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev]

[Text] Washington, 26 Mar (TASS) -- U.S. President Reagan made use of his regular radio address to the country to heap attacks on those who are criticizing his economic and military programs.

As is known, a few days ago the U.S. House of Representatives approved by an impressive majority the alternative draft federal budget for fiscal 1984 submitted by the Democrats. The draft provides for some reductions in allocations to the Pentagon that were planned by the administration to be more than $280 billion, a record for peacetime.

But although these alternative measures are fairly limited in character and make no essential changes in the overall direction of the policy followed by administrations as they replace each other, they nevertheless caused a fit of anger in the White House. Reagan tried to protray matters as if "liberalistic elements" in Congress were threatening more or less to take the United States to the verge of catastrophe.

He accused those who supported the alternative measures in Congress of being ready to "play with the interests of the United States' national security." He also set in motion another psychological subterfuge, evidently intended for those Americans who live in constant fear that in conditions of the headlong rise in unemployment they might be left without a job at any time. The White House head tried to show that limiting programs for massive military preparations would end in..."an even greater increase in the army of the unemployed." In putting forward such "arguments" he clearly preferred to disregard the evidence of authoritative specialists, in whose estimation it is the arms race launched by Washington, which is unprecedented in scale, that constitutes the fundamental reason for the genuinely catastrophic situation in employment that has now come about in the United States.

Reagan used the same old open juggling of facts when he tried to convince the radio listeners of the fact that "Reaganomics" promised the United States a "new era of propsperity." It is very well known how the 2 years of the present administration in power has turned out for the United States: a record level of unemployment, a record deficit in the federal budget and a record number of bankruptcies.

Reagan's 'Destabilizing Program'

PM251123 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Correspondent A. Palladin dispatch under the "Topical Theme" rubric: "A New Batch of Fabrications"]

[Text] Washington [no date given] -- A few years ago THE DAILY WORLD carried a very expressive caricature. The New York newspaper's artist depicted the U.S. Congress and above it an airship in the shape of a monster with the inscription "The Soviet Threat." Below stands a Pentagon official who is giving commands to the pilot of the airborne bugbear: "Fly around the building once more and frighten the congressmen: There is some delay there with the approval of the military budget."

THE DAILY WORLD might as well reprint that drawing every year, since the same old story is repeated every year: Hardly does the insatiable Pentagon Moloch open its mouth to demand more, than its patrons start hauling the bugbear of the Soviet threat around Capitol Hill.

Everything is under control, however. The annual spring ritual of intimidating congressmen with the "Eastern threat" has palled so much that it no longer prompts the residents of Capitol Hill to swiftly satisfy the brasshats' every whim. On 23 March, the members of the House of Representatives were even bold enough to revolt. By 229 votes to 196, they voted a draft fiscal 1984 budget formulated to spite the White House and to provide for a slower increase in military appropriations than the Reagan administration wanted.

The Democratic Party budget drafters proposed a 4-percent increase in appropriations to the Pentagon, which in any case will raise U.S. military spending to an unprecedented level. However the military, spoiled by the Republican administration, found this insufficient, especially since the White House had promised them 10.3 percent extra. Common sense, social needs, promises to balance the national budget -- Washington is prepared to forgo all these, but not the Pentagon's requests. That is why the latest batch of intimidation and fabrication has been set in motion.

To begin, the President called the attempt to moderate the military's appetitie a "stab" at the very heart of the program for safeguarding national security, which could be of pleasure only to Moscow. The Democrats replied to this by recalling that similar "arguments" had been used in America during the period of McCarthyism.

The Reagan invited the cameras into his office and read an address to the nation. The President devoted the first 23 minutes in his half-hour statement to his pet theme of intimidating his fellow citizens with the "Soviet threat." The viewers were again assailed by a storm of jumbled facts taken, mainly, from the Pentagon's recently published forgery under the title "Soviet Military Power."

Quite irrelevantly the President made accusations against Nicaragua. It was not enough that the latter's "aggressive aspirations" should be confirmed by showing...a battery of antiaircraft guns. At the very moment that the President's speech was being broadcast, the Nicaraguans were repulsing an invasion by CIA mercenaries, whom Washington dreams of using to end the Sandinist revolution.

It was only in the 24th minute of his speech that Reagan finally began to talk about his administration's alleged adherence to the ideas of peace and disarmament. Even these words, however, had a hackneyed ring to them: peace, but by force; talks with the Soviet Union, but from a position of strength...

Near the end, the President announced the decision to step up work in the sphere of antimissile defense. Many television commentators here consider the Reagan plan a destabilizing program, which merely increases suspicions about the Washington administration's real foreign policy intentions.

The U.S. President's speech thus confirmed that the White House has no desire to retreat from its unrealistic stance and rejects the demands of the overwhelming majority of Americans themselves for the establishment of speedy and effective arms control. Nor does the R. Reagan administration have any desire to abandon its obstructionist actions at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. And the more stubborn the reluctance to abandon the cold war path, contrary to the dictates of reason and the demands of the peoples, the more openly Washington is becoming a dangerous source of thermonuclear confrontation.

Opposition to U.S. 'Defense Concept'

LD290302 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0001 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Text] Washington is continuing to block the international talks at which measures capable of leading to an agreement on the reduction of arms and armed forces are being considered.

This refers first and foremost to the Geneva talks where, as a result of a tough position by the U.S. representatives, there continues to be a deadlock. Trust between the countries is being seriously damaged. This intensifies the threat to universal peace, PRAVDA points out today in an editorial [peredovaya statya].

The U.S. Administration is putting forward new military doctrines such as the new defense concept. The peoples are also particularly alarmed at Washington's intention, come what may, to implement the decision imposed upon the NATO countries to deply new U.S. medium-range weapons in a number of west European states, weapons that the USSR regards as strategic weapons. The implementation of that plan, the start of which is scheduled for 1983, represents a serious danger to the European peoples and will lead to an even greater worsening of the international situation.

To prevent a nuclear war is the objective of all mankind. A broad antiwar coalition is being formed. The peoples of the fraternal socialist countries come out resolutely in favor of peace. In the name of this humane end hundreds of thousands of men, women and children in the FRG, Italy, Greece, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, the United States, Canada, Japan and other countries have taken to the streets in cities. The movement is gaining momentum in the United States for a freeze on nuclear arsenals supported by some congressmen. The antiwar and antimissile movement is already a substantial factor in world politics today. Tomorrow it should become even more massive and combat-ready, notes the editorial. A firm and steady peace is the first and more urgent requirement of mankind. Everything that is honest and healthy in the world is rising up for the sake of peace in the struggle against the dangerous actions of the imperialist warmongers.

NSC DIRECTIVE ON USSR TRADE 'THREATENS HISTORY'

PM281351 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 26 Mar 83 p 3

[G. Dadyants article: "Pipes Threatens History"]

[Text] It is reported that U.S. President R. Reagan has signed a document proposing that the U.S. Administration "put economic pressure on Russia in order to intensify the Russians' internal difficulties." This document has been compiled by Professor R. Pipes of Harvard University, the well-known anti-Soviet and former White House staffer, and published by the U.S. National Security Council as Directive Decision 75. It casts doubt on the legal force of contracts concluded between American companies and their clients in West and East Europe and also in the Soviet Union. The President is granted extensive powers to use trade embargoes as an instrument of foreign policy.

These two points alone were enough to cause indignation in U.S. political and business circles. "If Reagan intends," the San Francisco CHRONICLE writes, "to revive the cold war atmosphere that Truman created, he will probably encounter opposition from broad circles of the business world in our country."

Let us recall that in 1948 President Truman, seeking to slow down the Soviet Union's economic development, introduced controls on exports to socialist countries. It was then that the notorious COCOM -- the Committee for the Coordination of NATO countries -- was set up, which drew up prohibited lists of more than 1,000 commodities that were not to be exported to the USSR or the socialist countries. However, the boycott organized by the United States did not halt the Soviet Union's economic development. On the contrary, as American researchers themselves admit, the years when the "economic war" was being waged particularly doggedly against the USSR were years of an impressive economic leap in the USSR. The only people to be hit by Truman's "boycott" were the American companies trading with the Soviet Union.

Has history really taught Reagan and his advisers nothing? For Truman's "boycott" was not the first unsuccessful attempt to wage "economic war" against the Soviet Union. Such attempts had been made by capitalist countries even earlier, in the 1920's, and even then nothing came of it. What "blockade" can have any success now that the USSR has become a great industrial power capable of providing itself with all it needs without any foreign assistance?

No more than 1 month ago the CIA prepared a report that the USSR itself satisfies its needs for food and industrial output no worse than any developed Western country and possibly even better. "Accordingly, the potential for influencing the Soviet Union with the help of economic levers is limited," one of the agency's leaders admitted. However, in their blind anti-Sovietism and their desire "economicaly to stifle" the USSR the fanatics surrounding President Reagan do not heed the voice of reason. They still cherish wild ideas of "reducing the USSR to the role of a second-rate power."

The American Administration has evidently learned nothing from its own experience -- the recent failure of the "sanctions" against the Siberia-West Europe gas pipeline. Then the head of the White House attempted to impose an "embargo" on deliveries of components for compressors and other equipment to the USSR and to extend his "bans" to European companies working to American licenses that had concluded corresponding contracts with Soviet organizations. It is known that in that case too, Reagan succeeded in "punishing" only his own firms, which lost orders worth many hundreds of millions of dollars, while the European partners simply brushed aside the American "bans."

Does anyone in the White House really believe that the rattling of compressor components can influence the policy of a country such as the Soviet Union?

Let us note that, whereas previously, when it imposed its "sanctions," the United States demanded "a change in the USSR's conduct in the international arena," now Directive 75 speaks of changing the Soviet Union's domestic policy. In other words, the powers that be in Washington are threatening the course of world history, neither more nor less.

"American President Ronald Reagan must change his foreign policy advisers," Canada's TORONTO STAR writes not without irony in this connection. Reagan, who has tried to achieve military superiority over the USSR with the help of the arms race, the newspaper emphasizes, is now thinking about how to bring the Soviet economy to its knees by means of all-embracing trade sanctions. But if the arms race is dangerous, the newspaper warns, the imposition of a trade embargo "is simply the purest stupidity."

This incidentally, is understood not only in Canada but also in America itself. "Our country," the Los Angeles TIMES writes, "simply has no means of exerting pressure of this sort (on the Soviet Union -- G.D.), and it was staggering to hear that the Reagan administration thinks otherwise.

In the general opinion of Western observers, the ideas of Reagan and Pipes on the whole are staggeringly naive and show particularly clearly the U.S. Administration's inability to reconcile itself to existing realities -- above all, the reality of the Soviet Union's existence. Nor does the American Administration want to understand the realities that have taken shape in the Western world. According to press estimates, East-West trade today totals approximately $80 billion a year. Who intends to renounce these billions? As the American press admits, neither Japan nor West European countries have the slightest intention of supporting the policy of an "economic war" against the USSR. Thus, the American Administration will again be left face to face with its own industrial companies, which will have to count up new losses.

The aforementioned Canadian newspaper, the Toronto STAR, reaches the conclusion that at the present stage a trade conflict with the USSR would be a totally senseless step by the American Administration, which is blinded by hatred of the "Reds" and "too frequently does something and only then thinks." And it concludes: "We do not need a new cold war. We do not want to lose trading partners when it is a question of millions of jobs in the West. We do not need a ruinous split in the sphere of trade policy between the United States and its European allies. Primarily, of course, we do not need to resort to provocations that arouse the Soviet Union's mistrust of us."

What is clear to the whole world is, unfortunately, not clear to President Reagan and his advisers. You cannot help reaching the conclusion that Mr Pipes displays unreasonable zeal in threatening history.

U.S. ADMIRAL ON READINESS TO INTERVENE IN GULF

LD290158 Moscow TASS in English 2254 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 28 TASS -- An important role is assigned to the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the plans of U.S. imperialism for establishing its domination in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

As Vice-Admiral S. Holcomb, commander of that fleet, said in an interview with the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT weekly, the U.S. Seventh Fleet is always ready for an armed intervention against the Persian Gulf countries. We preserve readiness to send, if necessary, our forces into the territory of the Persian Gulf countries, he said.

The admiral admitted, however, that the peoples of those countries do not wish the USA to have its land forces on their territory.

The Seventh Fleet operates in the north-western part of the Pacific, the South China Sea and the Persian Gulf area. It includes eighty ships: an aircraft carrying group in the Arabian Sea and two operational combat squadrons with an aircraft carrier at their head in the South China Sea and the north-western part of the Pacific.

U.S. CONGRESS' O'NEILL ARRIVES IN PRC FOR TALKS

LD290035 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] The speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, Thomas O'Neill, has arrived in Beijing for talks with Zhao Ziyang and Deng Xiaoping. According to the visitor, he is prepared to talk on any subject the Chinese leaders should wish to bring up. Our observers believe the Taiwan problem will figure high on the list of subjects at Mr O'Neill's talks in Beijing. On the eve of his visit to China the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY produced a commentary criticizing President Reagan's address to a group of American students. The President made it clear the United States would keep to its two Chinas policy.

U.S. 'WORRY' OVER TAIWAN FUTURE 'PROFOUND'

OW290603 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Vershinskiy commentary: "How Concerned Is the United States About Taiwan?"]

[Excerpts] The future of China's Taiwan Province and the way of life for Taiwan's residents have always worried the U.S. authorities. Uncle Sam on the other side of the ocean is especially worried about the future of the Han people living in China's Taiwan Province. As everyone knows, to emphasize his deep sense of responsibility for the future of Taiwan's residents, the good and caring uncle has even passed a special law concerning Taiwan, a law passed several years after the United States and China established official diplomatic relations.

China has, on many occasions, tried, with polite hints and strong protests, to make Taiwan's unwelcome protector understand that such protection is tantamount to continuing to pursue a "two Chinas" policy and interfere in the internal affairs of the Chinese people.

It has been discovered that Uncle Sam does not understand the hints. As for the strong protests, he pays no attention to them at all, or makes some perfunctory remarks and remains unmoved. U.S. imperailism is prepared to endure any protest provided it is not prevented from continuing its loving care and protection of the Chinese residents in China's Taiwan Province. Not long ago, a resolution was put forward in the U.S. Congress that once again proved that the so-called U.S. worry about the future of the people in Taiwan is very profound. And U.S. Department of State Spokesman Romberg recently announced another of Washington's favors as a proof to its heartfelt solicitude. From his remarks, it was learned that, in fiscal year 1983 and 1984, U.S. military supplies to the Taiwan regime would exceed the level of previous years to total U.S. $1.6 billion.

Obviously, the United States not only refuses to give up its special relations with the Taiwan regime, but, on the contrary, is provocatively showing its intention to strengthen that regime. The purpose is to resist a just soluton to the Taiwan issue, which is in the interests of the Chinese people.

While expanding its support for the anticommunist Taiwan regime, the U.S. ruling clique has haughtily hinted that, at present and in future, it is not Beijing, but Washington, which will determine the destiny of Taiwan's residents.

The so-called special U.S.-Taiwan relations have become, not only the embodiment of the imperialist idea and practice in interfering in the Chinese people's internal affairs, but also the incarnaton of the expansionist and hegemonist U.S. Far East policy. While emphasizing its concern about the future of China's Taiwan Province, U.S. imperialism is actually seeking its own neocolonialist interests.

DRA'S KARMAL CITED ON NATIONALITIES, SECURITY

PM251329 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS dispatch: "Main Tasks"]

[Text] Kabul, 24 Mar -- One of the chief tasks facing the PDPA amd the DRA Government is to resolve the nationalities question and guarantee the equality and flourishing of all the nationalities populating Afghanistan. This was stated by B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, at a meeting with tribal elders and working people's representatives from Daraesuf, Samangan Province.

Pointing to the paramount nature of the task of ensuring security within the country and in the region a a whole, B. Karmal voiced the confidence that the tribes and nationalities of Afghanistan will continue to wage a resolute struggle against the enemies of the April Revolution and the enemies of the peace-loving Afghan people.

The Afghan leader told those assembled of the activity of the PDPA and the DRA Government aimed at building a new society in the country.

YASNOV, KAPITSA ATTEND PAKISTAN DAY RECEPTION

PM251003 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On the Holiday"]

[Text] Iftikhar Ali, Pakistani ambassador to the Soviet Union, held a reception on 23 March to mark the national holiday -- Pakistan Day.

The reception was attended by M.A. Yasnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; M.S. Kapitsa, USSR deputy foreign minister; and other officials.

PRAVDA CITES NHAN DAN CRITICISM OF PRC POLICY

PM281409 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "NHAN DAN on the Situation in Southeast Asia"]

[Excerpts] Hanoi, 20 Mar -- The newspaper NHAN DAN, assessing the situation in Southeast Asia and trends in its development, notes that the great success of the Delhi conference of heads of state and government of nonaligned countries caused displeasure among certain circles in ASEAN countries, which, having fallen into Beijing's snare, are trying by every means at their disposal to undermine the trend toward dialogue which has emerged in Southeast Asia.

Beijing, the newspaper writes, is utilizing the so-called "Kampuchean question," which it whipped up itself, in order to do all it can to provoke confrontation between the ASEAN countries and the states of Indochina. It resorted to aggressive, annexationist and hegemonist actions against the countries of Indochina, but suffered defeat.

Following Beijing, rightwing circles in ASEAN countries are nurturing and encouraging the Pol Pot butchers and Khmer reaction, but they cannot reverse the course of events in Kampuchea, where the situation is becoming more stable every day, the newpaper writes. The fact that the ASEAN countries were unable to foist Sihanouk onto the Delhi conference and also the isolation which Singapore and certain other ASEAN countries found themselves in at that forum are evidence of the grave failure of the policy of following Beijing.

The sensible proposals put forward at the recent conference of top leaders of the Indochinese countries in Vientiane constitute a constructive basis for joint actions by the Southeast Asian states in the interests of restoring peace and stability and developing cooperation in the region. On this basis the countries of Indochina have again put forward their proposal to sign treaties on nonaggression and the normalization of relations on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence with the ASEAN states and to hold an international conference on Southeast Asia.

The ASEAN countries' true interests, NHAN DAN stresses, lie in escaping from the 'snare' set by Beijing and entering on a path of dialogue with the countries of Indochina.

PRC, THAILAND ARMING 'KHMER REACTIONARIES'

PM291033 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Weapons for Khmer Reactionaries"]

[Text] Singapore, 25 Mar -- As the Hong Kong weekly FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW reports, at least two consignments of Chinese arms intended for transfer to emigre Khmer reactionary groupings have been shipped to Thailand. The arms deliveries, carried out last December, include light arms, military equipment and ammunition, and antitank missiles. According to the journal's information, the Khmer reactionaries are being trained by Thai instructors, while Chinese military advisers are stationed at the Pol Potites' base camps located along the Thai-Kampuchean border. The emigre reactionaries are receiving military assistance from Singapore as well as Thailand. According to the same weekly's reports, the Son Sann grouping received weapons in the middle and at end of last year.

FURTHER COVERAGE ON TIKHONOV'S VISIT TO SFRY

USSR-SFRY Communique

PM281541 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 83 First Edition pp 1, 14

[Joint Soviet-Yugoslav communique]

[Text] At the invitation of M. Planinc, president of the SFRY Assembly Federal Executive Council, N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, paid an official friendly visit to the SFRY 21-25 March 1983.

N.A. Tikhonov was received by P. Stambolic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and M. Ribicic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium. During the talks which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual respect, questions of cooperation between the two countries, between the CPSU and the LCY, as well as some international problems were examined, satisfaction was expressed with the fruitful, equitable, and comprehensive development of relations between the CPSU and the LCY, the USSR and the SFRY, and emphasis was laid on the striving for the further expansion of this cooperation.

Detailed talks were held between N.A. Tikhonov and M. Planinc, which took place in a friendly atmosphere of frankness and mutual understanding, which are characteristic of the relations existing between the USSR and the SFRY, and of the feelings between their peoples.

N.A. Tikhonov visited the J. Broz Tito memorial and laid flowers on his grave.

N.A. Tikhonov and the persons accompanying him visited the Socialist Republic of Croatia where they had meetings and talks with M. Czetkovic, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Croatia; A. Markovic, president of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Croatia Assembly; and other officials, visited several enterprises and had talks with the workers and leaders of these enterprises.

Everywhere in Belgrade and Zagreb the Soviet guests were given a warm and cordial reception.

Taking part in the talks between the heads of government were:

On the Soviet side -- V.F. Maltsev, USSR first deputy foreign minister; N.D. Komarov, first deputy foreign trade minister; N.N. Inozemtsev, USSR Gosplan deputy chairman; V.G. Morozov, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and N.N. Rodionov, USSR ambassador to the SFRY:

On the Yugoslav side -- Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary for foreign affairs; Jon Srbovan, member of the Federal Executive Council; Milenko Bojanic, federal secretary for foreign trade; Milojko Drulovic, SFRY ambassador to the USSR; Milos Sindjic, director-general of the Federal Institute for Social Planning; and Zdenko Svete, assistant federal secretary for foreign affairs.

The two sides informed one another about the socioeconomic development of the two countires, examined the results of their cooperation and the possibilities for its further development and exchanged opinions on several topical questions of international relations.

The expressed satisfaction with the level of multifaceted links between the two countries and confirmed the determination of their governments to continue to strengthen and develop the relations of friendship and mutually advantageous cooperation on the basis of respect for the principles of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equal rights, and noninterference contained in the 1955 Belgrade Declaration, the 1956 Moscow Statement and the other joint documents adopted as result of high level meetings which represent the firm basis of Soviet-Yugoslav relations.

The meeting between Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and P. Stambolic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and M. Ribicic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, held last November in Moscow, represents a continuation of useful traditional contacts between top leaders of the two states, of the CPSU and the LCY, which have always been highly significant for the development of relations between the two countries and for the strengthening of peace and international cooperation.

The broad links between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the SFRY Federal Assembly and between the governments, republics, krays, cities and sociopolitical organizations of the two countries contribute to the deepening and enrichment of Soviet-Yugoslav relations in all fields. Readiness was expressed to continue this cooperation in the future.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the successful development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation. The comprehensive economic relations, based on long-term cooperation, stability, and mutual advantage, have attained a high level. There is consistent implementation of the long-term program for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia for 1981-1990 and the trade agreement for 1981-1985; it is expected that the volume of goods deliveries, planned at $32 billion for the 5-year plan period, will be exceeded.

The heads of government confirmed the interest of the USSR and the SFRY in the further expansion of economic relations. During the consultations, which have started for this purpose, between the planning and foreign trade organs of the sides on questions of economic, scientific, and technical relations in 1986-1990, new possibilities will be studied for cooperation in the development of production capacities for the fuller satisfaction of the demands of both countries in essential goods, as well as in the ways to raise the technical standard and quality of products reciprocally supplied.

It was noted that important significance in the development of economic links between the two countries in the current 5-year plan period attaches to the expansion of specialization and production sharing in the automobile industry (passenger cars and trucks), machine building, production of equipment for nuclear power stations, sea and river shipbuilding and other fields. Proceeding from the attained volume and structure of reciprocal goods deliveries, the USSR and the SFRY attach great significance to the further improvement of the forms of economic cooperation and specialization and production sharing in the above-mentioned and in other sectors of the national economy.

The sides are convinced that the present level of economic relations, the successful implementation of the 5-year trade agreement and the agreements for cooperation in the building and reconstruction of SFRY industrial enterprises and other projects and the realization of the scientific and technical cooperation program will provide a reliable basis for the comprehensive expansion of economic links in the next period.

During the visit N.A. Tikhonov and M. Planinc signed "the basic guidelines for the realization of the long-term program for economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the SFRY until 1990."

It was recognized that it is necessary to step up cooperation in such fields as energy, including nuclear power, robot technology, and electronics. The joint scientific and technical elaborations in these fields must be introduced more quickly into production. It would be expedient to expand cooperation in the sectors related to agroindustrial complexes, food industry, construction, and transportation.

It was noted that the successful scientific and technical cooperation between departments and organization of the two countries makes a large contribution to the expansion and improvement of economic links.

The sides positively assessed the activity of the Soviet-Yugoslav intergovernmental committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. Confidence was expressed that it will continue to play an active role in the development and coordination of comprehensive and mutually advantageous economic, scientific, and technical cooperation.

Making a positive assessment of the level attained in cooperation in the fields of culture, science, education, and sports, the two sides expressed confidence in the necessity for further mutual acquaintance with the cultural and spiritual riches and artistic achievements of the two countries. They attach great significance to the expansion of cooperation in the fields of press, radio and television, which are called upon to play an important role in the strengthening of mutual understanding and of friendly Soviet-Yugoslav relations.

During the discussion of international problems the participants in the talks expressed profound concern with the dangerous exacerbation of the situation in the world and stressed the necessity to take measured aimed at strengthening peace and security and consolidating the relaxation of international tension. The sides expressed confidence that the ensuring of lasting peace, the strengthening of security and cooperation in all fields and the respect of independence and the people's rights to free development and social progress are the most important task of all states.

The heads of government are unanimous that the acceleration of the arms race is the most dangerous threat against peace and security. They note that in the existing situation, one of the most important tasks is to take immediate measures to halt the accumulation of arms and reach agreements which would ensure the limitation and reduction of armed forces and armaments, especially nuclear ones, on the basis of equality and identical security, as well as the achievement of real disarmament, and nuclear disarmament above all.

Stress was laid on the need to take concrete measures so as to start disarmament in Europe, where huge arsenals of nuclear and conventional weapons are concentrated. In this context they advocate the liquidation of all types of nuclear weapons in Europe, both medium-range and tactical ones, and also the limitation and reduction of conventional weapons and armed forces on the European Continent.

The USSR and the SFRY advocate the holding and galvanization of talks on the entire set of questions of limiting and reducing arms and of disarmament, and expect that all participants would undertake firm efforts so as to attain positive results.

The Yugoslav side acclaims and considers useful all initiatives and proposals which realistically improve the prospects of reaching agreement in the field of arms limitation and contribute to the process of disarmament. In keeping with this, the Yugoslav side received with attention the recent appeal by the USSR Supreme Soviet and the CPSU Central Committee "to the parliaments, governments, political parties, and peoples of the world" and the new porposals and initivatives by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, evaluating them as positive, useful, and requiring careful study.

Discussing the situation in Europe, the heads of government noted in particular the need to strengthen peace, security, trust, and cooperation between states, to translate into practice the principles and stipulations of the Helsinki Final Act and to continue and deepen the process which started with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. They advocate a successful conclusion of the Madrid meeting with the adoption of a meaningful and balanced document and the reaching of agreement on convening a conference on the measures to strengthen trust and security and achieve disarmament in Europe.

The Soviet side explained in detail the contents of the initiatives by the Soviet Union and the other countries of the socialist community, aimed at the strengthening of peace and international security. In connection with this, stress was laid on the importance of the proposal to conclude a treaty on mutual nonuse of military force and maintenance of relations of peace between Warsaw Pact members on the one hand and NATO members on the other.

During the exchange of opinions on some aspects of the situation in the Mediterranean, attention was drawn to the hotbeds of tension, conflicts and threat of war which still exist. The sides advocate the transformation of that region into a zone of stable peace and of fruitful and equitable cooperation and express their readiness to make constructive efforts in this direction.

The sides expressed grave concern with the Near East situation which has been extremely exacerbated as a result of Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the connivance of Israel's unbridled expansionist policy, its breach of UN resolutions, the occupation of part of Lebanon's territory, and especially the genocide against the Palestinian people. They advocate an all-embracing just political settlement in the Near East, which must be based upon the implementation of the immutable legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including the right to establish their own state, the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories, occupied since 1967, the recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the recognition of the right of all states in this region to secure and independent existence and development. The sides expressed a positive attitude toward the principles for resolving the problems of a Near East settlement proposed by the FES conference of heads of Arab states and governments and by the 16th session of the Palestine National Council.

The heads of the USSR and SFRY Governments expressed concern at the continuing armed conflict between Iran and Iraq and spoke in favor of its settlement by political means.

The sides declare their support for the struggle to liquidate colonialism, neocolonialism, and apartheid, and condemn the aggressive actions of the South African racist regime against independent states in southern Africa. They support the liberation struggle of the Namibian people headed by their sole true spokesman, the South West African People's Organization, and demand the fulfillment, in toto and without further delay, of UN resolutions, including Security Council Resolution 435 on the granting of independence to Namibia.

The Soviet Union and Yugoslavia affirmed their position in favor of the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and the establishment of a new world economic system. The sides stressed the need for the earliest start of worldwide negotiations in accordance with UN resolutions.

The USSR and the SFRY advocate the enhancement of the role and effectiveness of the United Nations in international life as an important instrument for the safeguarding of peace and international security, the peaceful solution of urgent international problems, the development of equitable cooperation between states and the contribution toward economic and social progress on the basis of strict observance of the UN Charter by all states.

The Yugoslav side provided information about the results of the seventh conference of heads of states and governments from nonaligned countries in Delhi, which manifested the constant strengthening of the Nonaligned Movement as an independent force playing a significant role in the solution of international problems and the strengthening of peace, independence, free socioeconomic development, and equitable international cooperation.

The USSR acclaims the growing role of the Nonaligned Movement in the cause of normalizing the situation in the world, eliminating the threat of war and strengthening equitable international cooperation. Important significance for the attainment of these goals attaches to the results of the seventh conference of heads of states and governments of nonaligned countries in Delhi.

The heads of government expressed satisfaction with the results of the meetings and talks. They consider that broad opportunities exist for the further development and strengthening of relations, mutual understanding, and trust between the two countries. The USSR and the SFRY will continue to follow this course, although certain differences exist in the evaluation of some events in international life by the sides. The talks which have just taken place will help the further strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the SFRY and the cause of international peace, security, progress, and cooperation.

N.A. Tikhonov conveyed to M. Planinc, president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, an invitation by the USSR Government to pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction.

PRAVDA Reports Positive Results

LD271319 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 83 Second Edition p 4

[Special correspondents V. Skvortsov and V. Sharov: "On a Firm Basis"]

[Text] What is at the center of attention of the Yugoslav public is the official, friendly visit by Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to the SFRY, which has just ended. In analyzing the results of the visit by the head of the Soviet Government, the press stresses that his meetings and negotiations with the leaders of the SFRY and the LCY had taken place in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual understanding, and respect and that they represent a fresh step in the further development of cooperation between the two countries and peoples.

The results of the visit confirm again that the Soviet-Yugoslav relations are being built on the basis, tested by experience, of equitable and mutually useful cooperation, on the principles and agreements enshrined in the Belgrade Declaration of 1955, the Moscow Statement of 1956 and in other documents adopted during Soviet-Yugoslav meetings at the highest level. As stressed during the visit, our joint readiness to develop and consolidate the comprehensive relations between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, between the CPSU and the LCY, was again confirmed at the meeting in Moscow in November last year between Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and Petar Stambolic, president of the SFRY Presidency; and Mitja Ribicic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium. That meeting represented a continuation of the traditional contacts of the highest-ranking leaders of the two states and parties, which have always played an important role in the development of friendly relations between the two countries and in the consolidation of peace.

At the meetings and negotiations both sides expressed their satisfaction with the fact that fruitful Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation is constantly expanding.

Exchanges of delegations and visits by leading party and state officials and representatives of social organizations have become a permanent practice. Contacts between the republics and provinces of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia are becoming increasingly close. There are also real and tangible results of all this in trade and in the construction of industrial and other installations as well as in production cooperation.

The Yugoslav public has received with satisfaction the aspiration expressed by both sides in the negotiations that the relations between the two countries continue to develop along the tested path of friendship and cooperation and correspond to the general interests of the struggle for social progress and peace. The meetings and negotiations held in Belgrade, as well as the documents signed, are characterized by their orientation toward prospects.

During the visit, the document, the basic guidelines of the realization of the long-term program of the economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and the SFRY until 1990, was signed; concrete agreements were reached on the construction for the Soviet Union by Yugoslav shipyards of 20 ships for the transport of fruit and vegetables; on the expansion in deliveries from the Soviet Union of energy sources, and on Soviet participation in the construction of 500,000-kw generating unit for a Yugoslav power plant. The two sides coordinated possible joint measures to expand production specialization and industrial cooperation.

The cordial and warm reception accorded to the head of the Soviet Government by the work collective of the Rade Koncar factory in Zagreb, one of the largest combined enterprises of Yugoslavia with 22,000 employees, manifested once again the deep interest of Yugoslav workers in the strengthening and expansion of Soviet-Yugoslav economic relations.

At the meetings and negotiations in Belgrade, a large number of international problems were also discussed. The two sides stressed in particular the significance of activating all forces working to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war, to curb the arms race and in defense of the right of peoples to independent development and social progress. They came out in favor of taking, without delay, measures to consolidate peace and improve the international situation.

The Yugoslav side treated with attention the recent appeal sent by the USSR Supreme Soviet and the CPSU Central Committee to parliaments, governments, political parties and peoples of the world and the latest initiatives and proposals by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, assessing them as positive and useful and deserving of careful consideration.

During the meetings and talks it was noted with satisfaction that on the crucial issues of war and peace and the struggle for disarmament the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia are finding a common tongue and that the existing differences in their assessments of some international events and in the approaches to individual problems need not block that which is essential and which unites our countries.

The visit by Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to the SFRY represents a fresh step along the path of consolidating friendly ties between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Visit 'Successfully Concluded'

LD280137 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 27 Mar 83

[By observer Gennadiy Nikolayev]

[Text] Esteemed listeners, last week was marked by an event of great political significance. The official friendly visit by Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to Socialist Yugoslavia has been successfully concluded. This visit was an explicit proof of the high level of relations between our countries and demonstrated mutual interest in further developing comprehensive cooperation between the CPSU and the LCY and between the Soviet Union and the SFRY.

In analyzing the results of the visit by the head of the Soviet Government to Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union now unanimously stresses that the meetings and talks held represent a fresh confirmation of the fruitfulness of regular meetings and consultations by leaders of the two states. In this connection, the significance of the meeting between Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Petar Stambolic, president of the SFRY Presidency, and Mitja Ribicic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, held in Moscow in November last year is stressed in particular. That meeting represented a continuation of the traditional contacts at the highest level which have always played an important role in developing friendly relations between our countries.

The visit, which took place in a warm and cordial atmosphere again confirmed the aspiration that Soviet-Yugoslav relations, the basis of which comprise jointly worked-out principles and agreements which have been tested in practice, be even more stable and that they develop even more dynamically for the well-being of our peoples.

In his talks with Mitja Ribicic, the head of the Soviet Government stressed the unchanging course adopted at the 26th CPSU Congress aimed at further developing cooperation with the SFRY. He stressed that the CPSU leadership advocates the consistent expansion of ties with the LCY with the aim of deepening mutual understanding in the struggle for peace and socialism.

The Soviet people have followed the course of the visit by Nikolay Tikhonov with constant attention. They stressed with satisfaction that the atmosphere in which the visit took place is marked by sentiments of friendship and sincerity, mutual respect, and understanding. The cordial and warm reception accorded to the head of the Soviet Government and the persons accompanying him in Belgrade and in Zagreb, and the reception accorded to him by workers, engineers, and officials of the Rade Koncar enterprise has met with wide acclaim in the hearts of Soviet workers.

Speaking about the traditional deeply-rooted Soviet-Yugoslav friendship at the luncheon given in honor of the distinguished guest by Petar Stambolic, Nikolay Tikhonov stressed: The peoples of our countries have always nurtured good sentiments toward each other. Soviet people want to see Yugoslavia as firm, monolithic and prospering and as a country which successfully builds socialism. This wish of ours is deep and sincere, the head of the Soviet Government stressed.

The aspiration of both sides for Soviet-Yugoslav relations to be built also in the future in such a way as to develop along the tested track of friendship and cooperation was manifested both during the talks as well as in the documents signed by Nikolay Tikhonov and Milka Planinc. As stressed among other things in the joint Soviet-Yugoslav communique, there are broad opportunities for further developing and consolidating relations of mutual understanding and trust between our countries. The Soviet Union and the SFRY, this important document stresses will adhere to this course also in the future, though there are certain differences in the assessments made by the two sides on some events of international life.

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the visit by the head of the Soviet Government to the SFRY, our countries express the firm conviction that the results of the visit will contribute to further strengthening friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the SFRY, and to the cause of international peace, security, progress and cooperation.

Moscow TV on Visit

LD252203 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The official friendly visit by Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Yugoslavia has ended. Our special correspondent, Eduard Mnatsakanov, reports from Belgrade.

[Mnatsakanov] There were bright and important events every day during the stay of the head of the Soviet Government in friendly Yugoslavia. Everywhere, in Belgrade and in Zabreb, the Soviet guest and his party were given a most joyful and warm welcome. The paper BORBA headed its commentaries: Cordiality and Frankness. Today's Belgrade papers assess the talks between Comrade Tikhonov and Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council of the Yugoslav assembly as very businesslike and fruitful.

The heads of the two governments laid down specific measures for further developing and improving all forms of equitable and mutually beneficial cooperation between our countries. They were united in their assessments of the problems of international security, problems of strengthening European and international cooperation. In the joint Soviet-Yugoslav communique, the sides expressed satisfaction with the results of the talks. The head of the Yugoslav Government, Milka Planinc, was invited to make an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union. This invitation was accepted with gratitude.

In the Chamber of the Federation, Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov and Milka Planinc signed a document titled: The Main Directions for the Implementation of the Long-Term Program for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation Between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia up to 1990. Replying to a question from Vremya program correspondent, Comrade Tikhonov said:

[Begin video recording of Tikhonov speaking] The talks went well. In the opinion of our Yugoslav friends, and in our opinion, the visit and the negotiations were successful. We have now come to an agreement and have signed a document which helps our organizations, and the Yugoslav ones, to better fulfill in the remaining 2 years, that part of the long-term agreement on economic cooperation which applies to this 5-year plan period. Besides this, we noted -- in this document which we have signed -- the great tasks for organizing the economic development of our countries at a higher level, up to the year 1990. I think -- having made a preliminary study of this document and having negotiated with the Yugoslav comrades -- we have marked out the correct paths, and I believe that our cooperation will develop. [end recording]

USSR Leaders Welcome Tikhonov

PM281443 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Untitled TASS report under general heading: "Visit Has Ended"]

[Text] At the airport in Moscow N.A. Tikhonov was met by G.A. Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first Deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR foreign minister; K.V. Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; N.K. Baybakov, I.I. Bodyul, V.E. Dymshits, L.A. Kostandov, N.V. Martynov, G.I. Marchuk, I.T. Novikov, Z.N. Nuriyev and N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman ofthe USSR Council of Ministers; M.S. Smirtyukov, administrator of affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers; USSR ministers; and other officials.

D. Strbac, SFRY charge d'affaires ad interim in the USSR, was also among the welcoming party.

HIGH-LEVEL PERSONNEL CHANGES IN RCP REPORTED

LD260600 Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Bucharest March 25 TASS -- A plenary meeting of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee has been held here. According to an AGERPRES agency report, the participants in the plenum have discussed reports on the results of development of the economy in 1982, on the international activities of the Romanian Communist Party and the Romanian state in 1982, and the main trends in the foreign policy in the current year as well as some other issues.

The plenary meeting passed a decision on enlarging the composition of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee from 21 to 23 members. The plenum elected Manea Manescu as member of the Political Executive Committee and promoted Constantin Olteanu from alternate to full member of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee. Stefan Birlea, Ioan Totu, Cornel Pakoste and Ion Radu [were] elected alternate members of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee.

Nicolae Ceausescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, addressed the plenum with a speech.

HUSAK, SMIRNOV SHARE 'HIGH OPINION' ON RELATIONS

LD282000 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] Husak, general secretary of the CZCP Central Committee and president of the CSSR, received Smirnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, in Prague. The two sides expressed a high opinion of the cooperation between the USSR and CSSR. It was stressed that the constant efforts devoted to the deepening and improvement of mutual cooperation in all fields serves the interests of both countries and is a contribution to the joint struggle for peace and social progress, in the spirit of the decisions of the Prague conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states.

USSR MILITARY LEADERS RECEIVE BULGARIAN MEDALS

PM251307 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Mar 83 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Presentation of Awards"]

[Text] On 24 March D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, presented the Bulgarian Jubilee Medal "100 Years Since the Birth of Georgi Dimitrov" to a group of Soviet military leaders. They have been awarded it by decree of the Bulgarian State Council for their contribution to strengthening fraternal friendship and combat cooperation between the armed forces and peoples of Bulgaria and the USSR.

The recipients include Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Army General S.K. Kurkotkin, Marshal of Engineering Troops N.F. Shestopalov and Army General I.N. Shkadov, USSR deputy defense ministers; and also Colonel General A.S. Zheltov, chairman of the Soviet War Veterans Committee, marshals of categories of troops, generals and admirals.

Ambassador D. Zhulev cordially congratulated the recipients. On the recipients' behalf Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov warmly thanked the BCP Central Committee and the Bulgarian State Council for the high award.

Major General B. Toshkov, military, naval and air attache at the Bulgarian Embassy in the USSR, was present at the award presentation.

HUNGARY'S VARKONYI VIEWS PROSPECTS FOR DETENTE

PM231501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Article by Peter Varkonyi, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee: "With Hope and Firm Faith"]

[Text] Budapest [no date given] -- The worsening of the international situation in recent years arouses the peoples' justified concern for mankind's peaceful future. More and more is being spent in the world on arms and primarily on mass destruction weapons. This race not only increases the threat of war but also leads to a futile waste of tremendous material and spiritual resources at a time when a significant proportion of mankind has very limited opportunities for improving its living conditions. At the same time it slows down the resolution of a number of important problems on a world scale.

The hotbeds of crises which have remained unextinguished for many years in various parts of the world pose a serious threat to international security. These are old or newly arisen conflicts which could easily lead to a broad armed confrontation.

The crisis of the world capitalist economy and also the continuing attempts by imperialist circles to use trade and economic relations for purposes of political blackmail are exerting an increasing influence on international relations as a constant factor.

All this is all the more striking as hopeful trends had been developing during the last decade, particularly in its first half, throughout the world and in its most sensitive region -- Europe. They were also characteristic of Soviet-American relations, which hold the key to the preservation of peace. The first results of the implementation of the Helsinki Final Act and the realization of the principles and recommendations recorded in it graphically demonstrated that only the path of negotiations based on full equality and equal rights and taking mutual interests into account can lead to the settlement of disputed issues and the broadening of cooperation between countries with different social systems -- cooperation advantageous to everyone. The various bilateral and multilateral agreements on arms limitation signed during those years and, above all, the treaties concluded between the Soviet Union and the United States showed that, given recognition of the fact of the established military-strategic equilibrium and mutual just guarantees of security the most complex and most delicate problems can be resolved.

The Warsaw Pact states were and still are the initiators and defenders of the dissemination and development of the detente process. And responsibility for the unfavorable turn of events in recent years, for the retreat into the background of the policy of peaceful coexistence and for the liquidation of what detente achieved is undoubtedly borne by the reactionary imperialist circles seeking to upset the military equilibrium which was the basis of the more balanced international relations in the seventies. These forces have emerged into the U.S. political arena. Considerable American pressure has also had an adverse effect on the conduct of its West European allies.

Coexistence and competition between the two world systems -- socialist and capitalist -- are a historical fact. The outcome of this competition is of decisive significance from the viewpoint of the future of all mankind. Our countries have sought right from the start to exert an influence on world politics ideologically and through the example of socialist development and observance of the principles of peaceful coexistence, seeking the same thing from others.

As a counterbalance to this, the capitalist system has disdained no means over the past 65 years in its attempt to erect obstacles in the path of social progress. Owing to the vast quantity of accumulated arms, the need to curb aggressive aspirations is felt more keenly nowadays than before. For imperialism's policy aimed at forcibly realizing antisocialist aims and achieving military superiority and the desire to shift the competition between the two systems into the sphere of military confrontation jeopardize mankind's very existence.

As a counterbalance to aggressive imperialist aspirations, the fraternal countries' actions are aimed at defending not only their socialist gains but also the future of all mankind. The Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee was imbued with acute awareness of that responsibility. The jointly adopted analysis of the international situation provides an answer to the question troubling many people of what causes brought about the dangerous change in American foreign policy and in the NATO countries' course. What gave the most reactionary circles of monopoly capital the opportunity to make an attempt to push into the background the sober forces in capitalist countries which possess a sense of responsibility? It is obvious that this is certainly not the result of the mythical "Soviet threat" and the farfetched U.S. and NATO "lag" behind the USSR and its allies in the arms sphere, as Western propaganda tries to depict the matter. It is no coincidence, therefore, that increasingly broad masses are openly expressing their doubt about such propaganda slogans and are opposed to imperialism's policy which is leading mankind to disaster.

If we analyze carefully the events of the last decade we immediately notice the major U.S. military and political failures in the seventies in Indochina, Iran and Nicaragua. Imperialist circles consider detente the reason why the socialist community has developed dynamically, why its international prestige and attraction have increased and why the struggle for national independence and social progress on a world scale has strengthened and is developing successfully. Having taken up arms against detente and peaceful coexistence, international reaction is thereby reckoning on halting the further weakening of capitalism's positions and retarding the spread of socialist ideas, vain hopes. Natural processes cannot be halted by poisoning the international atmosphere. No one has yet succeeded in reversing the wheel of history.

The protracted crisis of the world capitalist system has been developing since the midseventies, and its individual manifestations are characterized, above all, by growing inflation and unemployment, by declining American economic competitiveness in relation to its capitalist partners and by the shaken authority of the capitalist state's organs of power. The crisis has called in question the former relatively balanced sociopolitical stability of the capitalist world. It has happened repeatedly in the course of history that representatives of the reactionary circles of monopoly capital have tried to get out of such a situation with the help of adventurist domestic and foreign policy actions.

Wars, the threat of force and the enslavement of other countries are fundamentally alien to the socialist social system. Even surmounting the backwardness inherited from the past, socialism as the society of the future is capable of proving its qualitative superiority over capitalism in peaceful competition. Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, emphasized this in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum: "...The party is guided by Lenin's perspicacious instruction that we have our chief impact on the world revolutionary process through our economic policy."

In the present complex international situation, aware of their rightness and strength, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries act with a sense of responsibility for the future of all mankind. This is evidenced by the new initiatives of recent years and months and the proposals of the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact states aimed at curbing the arms race and preserving and further developing detente. It is also indicated by steps in the interests of strengthening confidence such as the USSR's unilateral pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

The consistency and immutability of the socialist countries' peace-loving policy were also reflected at the recent Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee. The Political Declaration adopted at that conference paints a realistic picture of the present international situation. The conference confirmed our previous peace initiatives and put forward a whole number of new proposals aimed at removing the danger threatening peace. The proposal to conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and on the maintenance of relations of peace between the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries is particularly important and has already elicited earnest responses.

Fearing international public censure, not even those leading NATO politicians who are guided by plainly opposite aims have been able openly to reject these proposals. They are now trying to belittle the significance of these proposals by saying that the principles on which they are based figure in the UN Charter and in the Helsinki Final Act. But for some reason these politicians do not wish to recall that NATO was created after the UN Charter was signed, and then the decision was adopted to arm the FRG and include it in NATO. And it was only years later -- for purposes of defense -- that the Warsaw Pact organization was set up. And it was after the Helsinki Final Act was signed that the American side refused to ratify the SALT II treaty and proclaimed the doctrine of "limited nuclear war." Therefore the Political Consultative Committee's Prague appeal addressed to NATO to conclude the treaty is perfectly fair and quite valid.

At the same time it was stated unambiguously at the Prague conference that the fraternal states will take all necessary measures in the interests of ensuring their own security, defending the socialist gains, and preserving peace throughout the world.

In the course of their history, Hungary and its people have suffered from many wars. Age-old experience and our present conditions and social aims equally make us interested in creating a peaceful and secure international environment. The establishment of military equilibrium at the lowest possible level of armament, so that the least possible amount has to be diverted from creative purposes to defense, would be acceptable to us, as well as to all the socialist countries. But together with our allies we take a realistic view of our world fraught with dangers. We know that only an appropriate defense capability can guarantee our security.

We for our part seek to promote the dialogue necessary in the present situation and seek to preserve and, as far as possible, further develop the Helsinki process. The great experience already accumulated is the basis of our confidence that mutually advantageous cooperation between countries with different social systems can neutralize the efforts of extremist circles, have a restraining influence on unfavorable phenomena in world politics, strengthen confidence and smooth the path to agreements which accord with the just security requirements of all sides.

This is also confirmed by Hungary's experience accumulated in the course of vigorous foreign policy activity and by the political summit meetings held last year between the leaders of our country and the FRG, Finland, Austria, Portugal, the United States and Turkey. We are prepared to continue cooperating in the interests of defending the policy of detente with all forces of good will.

We are convinced that the socialist countries' recent initiatives agreed at the Prague Political Consultative Committee conference are a good basis and an opportunity to prevent the further deterioration of the international situation. The Warsaw Pact states are still prepared to return to the path started by the arms limitation agreements and by the Helsinki Final Act.

Comrade Janos Kadar said in his speech in Moscow at the festivities devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation: "Many complex unresolved political and economic problems now exist in the world. They are aggravated by the arms race, which is intensifying as a result of the NATO leading circles' aspirations, and by the danger threatening the peoples' peace. And yet we believe, we believe that the love of peace and the defensive might of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact organization, the peaceful aspirations of the socialist countries and all peoples and the efforts of sober representatives of bourgeois political circles seeking detente will be effective enough."

U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY'S SPAIN TRIP DISCUSSED

TASS Assessment

LD252333 Moscow TASS in English 2242 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Madrid March 25 TASS -- U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger's official visit to Madrid ending today was a clear demonstration of the White House and Pentagon persistent effort to draw Spain into NATO's military structure.

The new Spanish Government is known to have halted the country's integration into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization pending a referendum on the issue. The plans for a referendum were confirmed by Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran in his interview with DIARIO 16, who made several reservations, however, with regard to things like progress in disarmament. Madrid's stand has long been causing the irritation of the U.S. Administration and of NATO strategists.

Talking to Spanish head of government Felipe Gonzalez on Thursday, the American defence secretary again alleged some impaired East-West balance of forces which was said to put the West at a disadvantage. He also made clear, when addressing a colloquium sponsored by the International Relations Institute, that the United States hoped that Spain would sooner or later become a full-fledged member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Local political observers took note of a remark made by right-wing opposition leader Manuel Fraga Iribarne after his meeting with Weinberger. He said the American defence secretary had been keenly interested in prospects for a referendum on Spain's NATO membership. This interest is easy to understand considering that an overwhelming majority of the Spanish people want their country to immediately withdraw from the organization.

The chief bilateral problem discussed during the Weinberger visit was American arms supplies to Spain. There were good reasons for the EL PAIS daily to point out that Spain might become the second-largest buyer of U.S.-made military hardware after Canada.

The pressure tactics resorted to by the Pentagon chief caused indignation around the country. A statement of the Communist Party of Spain says the Weinberger visit is "an absolutely inadmissible interference and pressure with regard to Spain's integration into NATO". The Weinberger visit, the statement says, is dangerous in that Spain may become involved in the Reagan administration's militaristic schemes at a time when they are being confronted with mounting opposition both in the United States and other countries.

Spain's NATO Stand 'Has Not Changed'

LD260054 Moscow TASS in English 2029 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Madrid March 25 TASS -- Spain's stand on its relationships with NATO has not changed after negotiations held in Madrid by the U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger. This was stated by the Defense Minister of Spain Narcis Serra upon completion of the visit of the Pentagon chief. "We have not come nearer to NATO, nor have we drawn farther from it", he said in the national radio interview.

According to the press, the stand of the new Spanish Government, which has suspended the country's integration with the NATO military organization, is the cause of irritation for the United States. One of the aims of Caspar Weinberger's visit was exactly to make Spain fully join the structure of the North Atlantic alliance.

IZVESTIYA Views Visit

PM281003 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar Morning Edition p 4

[Dispatch by correspondent V. Vernikov: "After Weinberger's Visit"]

[Text] Madrid [no date given] -- Pentagon chief C. Weinberger was in Spain on a special visit for just 48 hours but in that time he said enough to satisfy anyone else for a week. The repertoire of his verbal effusions was nonetheless highly monotonous and boring: The same thoroughly tedious abuse against the Soviet Union, which is allegedly threatening the West with its military might which, he says, makes it necessary for NATO to be rearmed as soon as possible. This was the background, so to speak, against which the U.S. guest's meetings and talks with his Spanish counterpart N. Serra, head of government F. Gonzalez, and Foreign Minister F. Moran took place.

Why did C. Weinberger need to inspire fear in his interlocutors? The Madrid newspapers believe that he wanted in this way to persuade them of the need to revise Spain's relations with NATO and to push them toward changing the socailists' well known position. It is a case of "unfreezing" the process of the country's entry to the bloc's military organization which, he said, is in Washington's view "a natural development of its democracy and a substantial step toward Spain playing a fitting role of its own in Europe and even beyond."

In the opinion of political observers, the chief of the U.S. Defense Department came to Madrid to acquire first hand, detailed information concerning the Spanish Government's progress on the question of the country's NATO membership, the referendum on the subject, the plans to consolidate Spain's defense, and the state of bilateral relations. Obviously he obtained this information during the many hours of talks, evidence of which can be found in the joint communique published on the results of the visit. The statement made to journalists by N. Serra after the guest had been seen off at the airport was unambiguous and eloquent enough: "There are no deviations by a single step either forward or backward in our stance on the NATO question."

The Madrid newspapers which commented on C. Weinberger's visit constantly noted his pressure on Spanish officials and "persistent U.S. recommendations to Spain that it become a full NATO member," hinting at all sorts of bonuses in return.

According to the Spanish Government press spokesman, F. Gonzalez stressed, during his talk with Weinberger, his conviction that the existence of "a reliable Western defense system is a guarantee for Spain and the entire geostrategic zone to which the country belongs." He also voiced Madrid's desire to "maintain good relations with the United States, with which Spain shares the same ideals of the defense of freedom." But as EL PAIS also notes, despite these assurances, the position of Spain, which rejects the presence of nuclear weapons on its territory and which has suspended entry to the NATO military organization, most likely worries the United States and "the United States is undoubtedly trying to alter it in order to cover completely the bloc's southwest flank."

In the opinion of the press, Spain's purchase of U.S. armaments to modernize its Army can serve as one more "argument" in this pressure. The McDonnell Douglas avaiation corporation alone is to sign contracts with Madrid this year worth over 400 billion pesetas and there are also plans for acquiring various missiles, helicopters, and other military equipment in the United States. As a high-ranking representative of the Spanish Defense Ministry said recently, the country is becoming the second largest purchaser of U.S. armaments after Canada, although only recently the military here was condemning this "linkup." As is well known, the United States links these purchases with a promise of economic aid to Spain, only an insignificant part of which is earmarked for plans for cultural and scientific development.

USSR, W. BERLIN TO SIGN NATURAL GAS AGREEMENT

LD282033 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] A Soviet trade delegation has left Moscow for West Berlin with a view to signing an agreement on supplies of Soviet natural gas. The delegation is being led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Nikolay Osipov. The plan is to supply West Berlin with 700 million cubic meters of gas a year.

Earlier, the Soviet Union signed similar agreements with France, West Germany, and several other countries. The gas will be pumped through a transcontinental pipeline currently under construction between Siberia and Western Europe.

ALLIED MILITARY EXERCISES IN W. BERLIN BEGIN

LD282300 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1200 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] West Berlin, 28 Mar (TASS) -- The latest military maneuvers by American, British, and French Forces, under the code name Maerzhase began in a number of districts of West Berlin today.

This time, over 3,000 officers and men and almost 300 tanks, armored personnel carriers and other military equipment will take part in the maneuvers, which will last until 31 March.

The main theater of military operations will be the forest and park districts Tegeler Forest, Spandauer Forst, and Gruenewald -- the favorite leisure spots for the West Berliners.

The democratic press notes that such militaristic demonstrations, which are being held more and more often in West Berlin, have nothing in common with the vital interests of the population of the city.

EEC'S AGRICULTURAL POLICIES CRITICIZED

LD280944 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 28 TASS -- The agrarian policies of the "Ten" have since long been subjected to strong and just criticism. The very system of fixing guaranteed prices on some types of produce benefits first of all monopolies, even though it provokes fierce bickering between them. The same thing happened now. The proposal advanced at the European Council's session to raise purchasing prices by 4.4 percent resulted in keen struggle. Opinions diverged. For the higher the prices, the greater are the agricultural clauses of the EEC budget, which already now stand at about 70 percent of the total expenditure. Lev Strzhizhovskiy writes about this in PRAVDA today.

Britain is the main contributor to the community budget, but it receives back from its treasury less than it gives. That is why the idea of a greater budget runs into opposition across the English Channel. Agricultural monopolies on the continent stick to another view. They are not in the least worried over the overall balance, whereas higher [words indistinct] each of the groupings is trying to snatch as much as possible from the agricultural pie of the "Ten."

The present "green marathon" is complicated by the forthcoming admission of Spain and Portugal to the Common Market, the commentary stresses. Talks on their integration have been going on for two years. But each time they encounter agricultural problems. What is needed is a review of the sophisticated system of regulating quotas and prices on the so-called "Mediterranean produce." French monopolies are military, fearing keen competition on the traditional markets of fruits, vegetables, and olive oil.

That is why France demands in advance the establishment of certain barriers in the way of deliveries from Spain and Portugal, the commentary says.

Such is the tangle in which closely intertwined are the urgent and long-term interests of agricultural monopolies of the Ten. No one has as yet succeeded in dissolving it. The secret is that the main criterion used by the top echelons in the Common Market is not the interests of tax-payers, but appetites of transnational corporations.

SOVIET-FRENCH JOINT SPACE PROGRAMS VIEWED

Paris Press Conference

LD251200 Moscow TASS in English 1133 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Paris March 25 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Korolev reports: A press conference was held at the National Space Research Centre here today to spotlight a joint Soviet-French scientific program to be carried out during the flight of the space probe Astron, which was launched in the Soviet Union on March 23.

Addressing the attending newsmen, Mr Cruvellier, who supervises the French part of the program, emphasised that the launching of the Soviet automatic station Astron, which carries a unique ultra-violet telescope, is a substantial advance in space exploration. French scientists, he said, took an active part in developing equipment incorporated in this telescope, which was evolved by the astrophysical observatory in the Crimea in cooperation with other Soviet organisations. Manufactured in France for the new Soviet space laboratory, in particular, was a set of spectrometres.

Soviet and French scientists, Mr Cruvellier said, also outlined an extensive program of astrophysical research, which will be done with the telescope's help. The Soviet probe, he said, is in fact a space observatory, which will make it possible to collect fresh scientific information about our galaxy.

The Soviet Union and France, Mr Cruvellier emphasised, have over recent years staged several similar scientific experiments, he singled out the joint Soviet-French experiment "Galaxy", during which a number of astrophysical studies were performed with the help of Soviet satellites in 1977-78, as particularly important.

"We intend to continue this fruitful cooperation," Mr Cruvellier said. He disclosed that Soviet and Franch scientists have plans for further, interesting projects to study celestial bodies.

Joint work by Soviet and French experts to prepare the flight of the automatic station "Astron", Mr Cruvellier said, is another example of multiform Soviet-French cooperation in the peaceful exploration of outer space. "There are today real prospects of further deepening this mutually advantageous cooperation, which meets the interests of France and the Soviet Union. We hope that it will continue successfully to develop also in the future," he emphasised.

'Halley's Comet Project' Highlighted

LD251612 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- Soviet space probes to blast off toward Halley's Comet will carry television equipment manufactured by French specialists. Shortly, the equipment is to undergo testing at the Institute of Space Research under the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

Soviet scientists together with their colleagues from France, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Austria and West Germany are planning to carry through the joint Halley's Comet project.

As is known, another encounter of the Earth with Halley's Comet is expected in 1986. The comet travels around the sun with a period of 75-76 years. The last time it was observed in 1910. Soviet scientists are readying for the rendezvous already now so as to use the chance to the full for studying the comet.

The project provides for the launching of automatic space probes toward Venus. These are to consist of Venus landers and **fly-past vehicles. Near** Venus each of the probes will separate into two parts. The Venus landers will head toward Venus, while the fly-past vehicles will continue their trip through space to pass at a distance of 10,000 kilometers from Halley's Comet. The equipment of both vehicles will study the nucleus and the coma of the comet.

French scientists have shown interest in the project and are now taking an active part in its implementation. Soviet-French cooperation in space exploration is deepening. From individual experiments Soviet and French scientists switch over to major joint projects.

SOVIET, FRENCH AMITY GROUPS SIGN COOPERATION PLAN

PM251007 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A cooperation plan between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the USSR-France Society, and the France-USSR Society for 1983-1984 was signed in Moscow on 23 March.

C. Arnaud, French ambassador to the USSR, was present at the signing.

U.S.-TURKISH MILITARY RELATIONS ADDRESSED

'Against Turkey's Neighbors'

LD261059 Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1400 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The United States has recently considerably stepped up its preparations on Turkish territory for war. American bases are being modernized and expanded to enable them simultaneously to accomodate a higher number of military aircraft. The administration in Washington is demanding, with growing insistence, Ankara's agreement to the (?stationing) of American rapid deployment forces in Anatolia, at modernized establishments. Plans are being drawn for the stationing of spy-planes equipped with AWACS early warning systems at a number of airbases.

What are the reasons for the choice of the present and of the choice of Turkey for the great attention paid by America? The answer to this question may be found in a recent statement made by Schneider, the U.S. under secretary of state. Turkey, Schneider said, is situated in the region where NATO and our stretegic interests in the Middle East are integrated and united. U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger also stated, in commenting on the U.S. military bases in Turkey, that the use of these bases in closely connected with plans for reinforcing America's security.

It is impossible for the Pentagon's boss not to be aware of the fact that the United States, which is thousands of miles removed from the Middle East, is keeping bases in Turkey for totally other than defensive purposes.

Attempts to mask the expansion of the U.S. military presence in Turkey with such statements strike one as, at the very least, inept. Nevertheless, it is impossible, dear listeners, not to recall in this connection a highly justified thought articulated by CUMHURIYET. This paper writes that Washington views things from the point of its Near and Middle East strategy. This strategy, as always, has aggressive aims.

Dear listeners, U.S. strategy is mainly directed against Turkey's neighbors. The peoples of Turkey and the neighboring countries are well aware of this. This is why they are concerned not only over America's activities but also over the American-Turkish military treaty.

Trade and economic ties between Turkey and Arab countries are steadily improving. An increasingly large proportion of Turkey's imports and exports are with these countries. The concern and unease felt by the Arabs and other neighboring countries over the American-Turkish military threat may, quite naturally, have a devastating effect on such trade and economic relations and destroy Turkey's authority in the eyes of its neighbors.

'Washington's Dangerous Plans'

PM281019 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Correspondent A. Filippov dispatch under the general heading: "For a Sensible Approach"]

[Text] Ankara, 27 Mar -- A series of articles published in the pages of the major newspaper MILLIYET draws readers' attention to Washington's dangerous plans aimed at drawing Turkey into aggressive actions against countries in the Near and Middle East and the Mediterranean.

The growing U.S. military presence in our country and the modernization of airbases which could be used by Washington at any time in its strategic interests, so the newspaper points out, arouse legitimate alarm in the Turkish public.

Turkey's policy must be considered and balanced, MILLIYET writes, and take account of our own national interests. We should continue to develop friendly and business contacts with our neighbors and not reduce the traditional relations of good-neighborliness with the Soviet Union to a state of crisis.

CPSU DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR LUXEMBOURG 27 MARCH

PM281505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's Departure"]

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by G.F. Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission, left Moscow for Luxembourg 27 March at the invitation of the Luxembourg Communist Party Central Committee to exchange work experience.

SOVIET DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT TO SYRIA

Meeting With Al-Asad

PM281031 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Parliamentarians' Visit"]

[Text] The Soviet parliamentary delegation headed by T. Kh. Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is visiting Damascus, has been received by Syrian President H. al-Asad, TASS reports.

The Syrian head of state rated highly the ties of friendship between the two countries and stated that imperialism's attempts to discredit Syrian-Soviet relations cannot fool the Arab peoples. H. al-Asad pointed out that the Near East is now threatened by the U.S.-Israeli danger but Syria will not succumb to imperialist and Zionist pressure. We will use all our means to combat the plans of Washington and Tel Aviv and believe that all hostile plots are doomed to failure, the Syrian president stressed.

On the same day, the Soviet parliamentary delegation was received by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant general secretary of the Ba'th Party, who rated highly the relations existing between the Ba'th Party and the CPSU and between the two friendly states.

Al-Asad, Koshoyev Remarks

LD270148 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 26 Mar 83

[Text] In Damascus President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria has told a visiting Soviet parliamentary delegation that a U.S.-Israeli threat looms over the Middle East. The president said Syria will not yield to pressure from imperialism and Zionism. He added that Syria highly appreciates the Soviet Union's friendship and that attempts to undermine that friendship are futile. The head of the Soviet delegation, Temirbek Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, for his part spoke of the Soviet Union's unflagging support for Syria.

Meeting With PLO's Al-Fahum

LD251609 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Damascus March 25 TASS -- The visit of the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet to the Syrian Arab Republic is continuing. The delegation had a meeting with chairman of the National Council of Palestine K. al-Fahum.

He expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union for invariable support of the Palestinian revolution in its rightful struggle for the release of the occupied Arab lands and formation of an independent Palestinian state. He said that the Palestinian people firmly turned down imperialist conspiracies against the Arabs, above all the notorious "Reagan plan." The Palestine Liberation Organisation, he stressed, supports the Soviet Union's proposal on the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East.

The head of the Soviet parliamentary delegation, Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet T. Koshoyev, has said that the Soviet Union supports the rightful struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for its inalienable rights, including the right to have an independent state of its own under the guidance of the Palestine Liberation Organization. He also emphasized the importance of coordination of activities of parliamentarians, aimed at opposing aggressive plans of imperialist and Zionist forces.

PONOMAREV, BRUTENTS MEET WITH LEBANON'S JUNBLATT

LD261522 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 26 Mar 83

[Text] Today, a meeting took place between Comrade Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; and Junblatt, chairman of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, and members of the party's leadership (Hamadah) and (Hamid).

During the course of a friendly conversation the Soviet representatives talked about the activity of the CPSU aimed at the relaxation of international tension, curbing the arms race and averting the threat of nuclear war.

The Progressive Socialist Party delegation told of the growing resistance by the Lebanese people against the Israeli occupying forces which, with American assistance, are trying to consolidate their position on Lebanese soil and are resorting to terror, encouraging differences among religious communities, and are striving to dismember the country.

The participants in the meeting strongly condemned the expansionist policy of the ruling circles of Israel, the U.S. and Israeli attempts to foist settlement conditions upon Lebanon which are detrimental to its lawful national rights.

The serious danger from Washington's build up and its direct military presence in the Near East, including in Lebanon, were stressed. The policy of diktat being conducted by U.S. imperialism toward the Arabs, the main part of which is composed of the so-called Reagan plan, is hindering the attainment of a just and all-embracing settlement of the Near East conflict.

The representatives of the CPSU and Progressive Socialist Party stated their unchanging support for the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people under the leadership of its sole lawful representative, the Palestinian Liberation Organization, for its inalienable rights, including its right to create its own independent state.

The sides declared firm support for Syria in its stand against Israel's provocations and imperialist pressure. The participants in the meeting expressed the striving of both parties to continue to develop friendly ties.

IRAQI PARLIAMENTARIANS CONCLUDE VISIT TO USSR

Haddad Statement on Visit

LD251659 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 25 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Here is what Na'im Haddad, head of a delegation of Iraqi parliamentarians, stated to our correspondent: [Video footage of Haddad being interviewed]

[Begin Haddad recording in Arabic fading into translation] First, I would like to express profound gratitude and thanks to the USSR Supreme Soviet for their invitation to us to visit the friendly Soviet Union.

During (?our) stay in your country we had the opportunity to familiarize ourselves with the life of the Soviet people, their great successes in the upsurge of the economy, their living standards and culture.

During our visit we held talks in the USSR Supreme Soviet, and visited Georgia and Leningrad. As a result of the talks and conversations the members of the delegation satisfied themselves once again that the Soviet Union is our true friend. We in Iraq also entertain the warmest friendly feelings toward you.

Relations between our countries were consolidated by the treaty of friendship and cooperation, which is founded on principles of equality. The effectiveness of this document has been confirmed by time. Relations between both countries are yielding positive results in all fields -- political, economic and cultural. We are striving toward the further strengthening of friendly links between Iraq and the Soviet Union and will make the maximum effort so that our relations can reach the highest level.

Such an approach in relations with the Soviet Union ensues from the principle of the socialist Ba'th Party, under the leadership of Saddam Husayn, and its 17 July resolutions.

During the visit we were informed in detail about the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy and its honest, sincere striving toward achieving relaxation of international tension, and the solution of all existing problems by peaceful means.

We assess highly the Soviet Union's position with regard to the struggle of the Palestinian people to secure the right to self-determination and create a Palestinian state.

In conclusion I would like to once again thank the Soviet people for their hospitality and attention given our delegation and to wish that Soviet-Arab relations progress and flourish.

Thank you for your attention. [end recording]

25 Mar Departure

LD251641 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- A delegation from the National Council of Iraq led by its chairman Na'im Haddad left Moscow today after completing an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Vitaliy Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other Soviet officials as well as Fadil al-'Izzawi, Iraqi ambassador to the USSR.

SUPREME SOVIET SENDS GREETINGS TO MOROCCAN KING

PM290929 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent King Hassan II of Morocco congratulations and best wishes for the well-being, success and prosperity of the friendly Moroccan people in connection with the country's national day.

In a reply telegram the king of Morocco expressed profound gratitude for the congratulations and good wishes, and in his turn wished the Soviet people happiness and prosperity.

FURTHER REPORTS ON MOROCCAN PARTY CONGRESS

Text of CPSU Greetings

PM251519 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Third National Congress of the Moroccan Party for Progress and Socialism:

Dear comrades,

The CPSU Central Committee conveys fraternal greetings to the delegates to the Third National Congress of the Party of Progress and Socialism.

Your congress is being held at a time when imperialism, primarily U.S. imperialism, in its striving for world hegemony is recklessly exacerbating international tension fraught with nuclear disaster and is launching an open campaign against socialism, democracy and the peoples' national independence.

U.S. imperialism is attempting to follow a policy of diktat with regard to the Arab states. This is clearly manifested by the sabotage of a just Near East settlement and the imposition on the Arabs of humiliating separate deals in the Camp David mold, by the barbaric aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and by the attempts to perpetuate and expand the imperialist military presence on Arab soil. The imperialists are counting on the disunity of Arab countries and are provoking internecine conflicts among them to be used for their own neocolonialist purposes, as is happening, for example, in northwest Africa.

Under these conditions, the fundamental national interests of the Arab peoples insistently require the mobilization and cohesion of all patriotic forces in Arab countries for an effective rebuff of imperialist intrigues. The activity of communist parties and all democratic and progressive parties and organizations in this direction acquires special significance today.

Following the traditions of Moroccan Communists, the Party of Progress and Socialism is defending the rights of the working class and all working people and is struggling for democracy, social progress and the strengthening of the country's national independence and against the attempts by imperialism to involve Morocco in its military strategic plans. The Party of Progress and Socialism unwavering advocates the unity of the international communist and workers movement.

People in the Soviet Union note with satisfaction the consistent line followed by the Party of Progress and Socialism of developing Soviet-Moroccan relations and friendship and cooperation between our parties and between the peoples of the USSR and Morocco.

We wish you successes in the ideological and organizational strengthening of the party, the consolidation of its links with the working masses and the development of cooperation with the national patriotic forces in Morocco and other Arab countries.

Long live Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism!

Long live peace and socialism!

CPSU Central Committee

Romanov Address to Congress

LD271644 Moscow TASS in English 1510 GMT 27 Mar 83

[Text] Rabat March 27 TASS -- The Third National Congress of the Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS) of Morocco is going on in Casablanca.

Delegates from various cities and provinces of the country speak from the rostrum of the PPS consistent line on domestic and international matters and voicing serious concern over the growth of the aggressiveness of imperialism, first of all that of U.S., which tries to undermine the peaceful foundations of inter-state relations. The delegates also emphasized the need for more active struggle for the preservation and strengthening of peace throughout the world.

Abdelwahed Suheil, [TASS spelling] member of the Political Bureau of the PPS Central Committee, made a report on changes in the party's program. The renewed program envisages continuity of the strategic line of the PPS which bases its activities on the principles of scientific socialism and internationalism.

In the domestic field the PPS sets itself as its main task to prevent foreign military presence on Moroccan territory and to strengthen national independence and sovereignty. Using the 40-years-long experience of revolutionary struggle, it intends to act vigorously in the name of democratic changes in the country in the political, socio-economic and cultural fields and in the name of creating a progressive anti-imperialist front of the left-wing forces of Morocco.

The participants in the congress were addressed by A.U. Romanov, the leader of a CPSU delegation, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, editor-in-chief of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA KULTURA. On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and all Soviet Communists he conveyed ardent fraternal greetings to the delegates to the Third National Congress of the PPS and wishes of successful work.

Touching upon the situation in the Middle East, A.V. Romanov stressed the need for a settlement of the conflict in the region which has become still more deep as a result of Israel's barbarous aggression in Lebanon. We, he said, resolutely condemn the aggression and the genocide against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. Full responsibility for Israel's criminal actions is also borne by the USA which encourages the aggressor and gives every kind of aid and support to it.

A.V. Romanov read out the CPSU Central Committee's message of greetings which was warmly welcomed by the delegates.

Daniel Naame, [TASS spelling] member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party, condemned Zionism's and imperialism's barbarous crimes on Lebanese soil. The United States bears the main responsibility for that monstrous aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian Peoples and for the tragedy of the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatilla, he stressed. That aggression, the speaker pointed out, has been committed within the framework of Washington's global strategy in the Middle East.

LIBYA CELEBRATES MILITARY EXPULSION ANNIVERSARY

LD290150 Moscow In Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Nikolay Andreyev commentary]

[Text] It has been 13 years since the last British soldier left Libyan soil, when the largest British naval base in Tobruk closed. The 1 September revolution in 1969 opened a new chapter in the modern history of the Libyan state. The position of the regime was not firm because there were foreign forces in Libya. The overthrown royalist regime used to rely on those forces. Therefore, it is logical that liquidating all the foreign bases on Libyan soil including the British base in Tobruk was one of the first measures to be taken by the Libyan leadership after the triumph of the revolution.

The Tobruk base had been used actively by imperialism in its struggle against the national liberation movement not only in Libya but also in Africa and the Middle East in general. With the liquidation of military bases on Libyan soil a very important stage in the life of the Libyan revolution began. Foreign assets were nationalized and the Libyan people regained control over their national resources including the oil wealth. No amount of threats, blackmail or provocations could destroy the will of the Libyan people who were building a new life.

The Libyan people have proved to the whole world that the complete and unconditional removal of any foreign military presence is the only thing that can lead the way toward freedom, independence, progress and prosperity. Liquidating the foreign military bases and expelling foreign forces provided Libya with the necessary prerequisites for following an independent foreign anti-imperialist policy.

Today, Libya is firmly calling for defending the national interests of the Arab peoples, for establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East and for confronting the separate deals capitulationist policy which is dictated by Washington. Along with all freedom-loving nations Libya categorically rejects the attempts by the U.S. Administration to impose its will on other states. Libya firmly and resolutely opposes the attempts by imperialism to widen its military presence in vast areas in various parts of the world.

Therefore, that unprecedented hostile campaign that is being waged by the U.S. military against independent and sovereign Libya is not accidental. The Reagan administration sees Libya as an obstacle along the road of implementing the lunatic plans to establish its military and political domination over the Middle East. The serious, hostile and provocative acts of the United States against the people of the Libyan Jamahiriyah and against its security have aroused strong condemnation throughout the world.

One must stress here that the Soviet Union is in solidarity with Libya in its struggle against imperialism and reaction. The Soviet people from the depths of their hearts hope that Libya becomes an economically advanced state which will play a marked and positive role in international affairs and which will be able to stand up to any foreign encroachments on its independence.

The highly versatile political and economic relations that exist between the Soviet Union and Libya have received a new important push forward as a result of the amicable working visit which was recently carried out by a high-ranking Libyan delegation headed by 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the leadership of the revolution in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The two sides expressed their satisfaction over Soviet-Libyan relations during their talks and stressed anew their efforts to widen and deepen these relations in the interests of the two friendly peoples. The two sides reached an agreement on principle regarding contracting a treaty of friendship and cooperation between them. They also pointed out their readiness to coordinate Soviet and Libyan efforts in the international sphere against the schemes of imperialism and to coordinate the efforts of both countries in the struggle for peace, disarmament, social progress and the free development of peoples.

In participating in the Libyan people's celebration of the 13th anniversary of the liquidation of the British military base in Tobruk, the Soviet people affirm their solidarity with the struggle of the Libyan Jamahiriyah against imperialism. They express their confidence that no imperialist, Zionist or reactionary machinations can dissuade the Libyan people from treading the road toward independence, progress and peace, which they have chosen for themselves.

COMMENTATOR LAUDS SOVIET-ARAB RELATIONS

LD251855 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. On Thursday, two Soviet-Arab summit conferences were held in Moscow. First Deputy Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vasiliy Kuznetsov received at the Kremlin a delegation representing the National Assembly of the Iraqi Republic headed by Speaker Na'im Haddad. On the same day, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko received the personal envoy of the Algerian president, Lakhdar Ibrahimi, who delivered a message from President Chadli Bendjedid to Secretary General of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov.

Cordial talks took place during these two meetings between the Soviet leaders and the Arab statesmen. The two sides affirmed the need to eliminate the dangerous hotbed of tension in the Middle East. The Soviet side reiterated that the USSR constantly and firmly strives for a truly just and comprehensive solution in the Middle East.

In this connection, gentlemen, I wish to state in particular that the Soviet, Algerian and Iraqi statesmen have strongly rejected all attempts to replace an effective settlement of the dangerous crisis in the region with a separatist deal akin to that of Camp David.

It is, today, more obvious to all than ever before that these deals benefit no one other than the Israeli aggressors and their mentors and strategic allies, the American imperialists.

There is one aspect of the Soviet Union's policy in the Middle East which is of an extreme importance in my opinion: It is that it firmly supports the efforts exerted by the Arab countries to revive and consolidate their solidarity and to ensure unity of action in the common struggle against the American-Zionist-neocolonialist plot.

During the recent Soviet-Libyan summit talks, reference was also made to the vital need for Arab solidarity in the joint Arab liberation struggle against imperialism.

The might of Arab solidarity is well known to the opposite side, Israel and American imperialism. It is for this that they do all they can not only to prevent the rebirth of Arab solidarity but also to widen and deepen the existing inter-Arab differences and their differences in attitudes toward solving the current problems of the region.

The Camp David accords and their amended form -- the so-called Reagan plan -- provide the principal means in the hands of Tel Aviv and Washington to implement the anti-Arab designs and plans.

The efforts of the American-Israeli strategic alliance aim at forcing some of the Arab countries -- primarily Lebanon and Jordan -- to join Camp David through political pressure and military intimidation. Washington and Tel Aviv also resort to all sorts of means to weaken Arab support for the valiant struggle of the Palestinian people for their sacred rights, headed by their basic right to establish an independent state on their land.

In the field of relations between Jordan and the Palestinians, Washington and Tel Aviv do their utmost to divert them to the course sought by the United States and Israel.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I wish to point out that the USSR's principled, firm policy in the Middle East, as illustrated once again by the meetings between Soviet statesmen and the statesmen of Libya, Algeria and Iraq in Moscow, has again met with their high appreciation. The Arab countries I have just mentioned have affirmed their extreme interest in developing and bolstering cordial relations and cooperation, on an equal footing, with the USSR. The majority of the Arab countries feel that without the active and direct participation of the USSR in all the efforts to secure a just and truly effective settlement in the Middle East for the good of all the area's peoples and countries, this objective cannot be achieved. Thank you and peace be with you.

ISRAEL PLANNING SPRING OFFENSIVE AGAINST SYRIA

LD282131 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary from the "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] Moshe Levy, the new chief of General Staff of the Israeli Army, has said that a large-scale attack against Syria could take place in the spring of this year when the weather becomes suitable for undertaking military operations. The time left for this is very short, and Tel Aviv is stepping up its preparations for another large-scale aggression against sovereign Syria. Reinforcements are being sent to the Israeli units stationed in the Al-Biqa' Valley, in Lebanon, while military maneuvers are taking place in the Negev Desert where a new base for the Israeli Air Force has been built and from where plans are being made for missile and bomb strikes against Syria.

The preparations for an armed attack against Syria are accompanied by a fierce campaign of fabrications conducted jointly by the Israeli aggressor and its transatlantic patrons, taking as a pretext for this Syria's legitimate efforts to strengthen its defense capability and particularly its anti-aircraft defense.

Israel's aggressive measures against Syria once again show the real price of Washington's self-styled peaceful policies which back the aggressor, the fact being that the preparations for aggression against Syria are being made under the cover of the diplomatic activity of Philip Habib and Draper, the two special envoys of the American President, who are playing the role of peacemakers.

Today one becomes convinced of the truth of what has been said by those Arabs who are conferred an appropriate nickname on the special envoy of the American President in the Middle East, describing him as a lover of war [Habib al-Harb; Habib meaning lover].

While planning and making preparations for a fresh aggression against Syria, Israel and the United States have set the objective of wresting this Arab country from the ranks of the staunchest and most steadfast strugglers defending the rights and national interests of the Arabs. They thereby also pave the way for the establishment of a so-called peace in the Middle East which is intended to bring the region under American-Israeli control.

Further Comment

LD281557 Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] And now a commentary on the Middle East by Valentin Lapin.

Reports from the Middle East indicate that following its invasion in Lebanon last year, Israel is preparing another phase of aggression. From the occupied Lebanese bridgehead Israel is going to deal a blow at the Syrian contingent of the Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon and at Syria itself.

The plans have been announced by the new chief of the general headquarters of the Israeli Army. Moshe Levi gave it to understand that Syria is to be attacked this spring when, as he put it, the weather is favorable for combat operations.

So everything is ready for an act of aggression. Israel is waiting for the right weather. At first sight the menacing pronouncements of Israeli leaders conflict with promises given by the American diplomats who shuttle between Tel Aviv and Beirut under the flag of peace-makers and mediators. These mediators claim they are working hard to settle the situation in Lebanon, but in actual fact Israel is using its U.S.-sponsored talks with Lebanon as a screen for continuing the occupation of southern Lebanon and at the same time for introducing into Lebanon the armed forces of the United States itself.

Washington keeps hinting that the strength of the American contingent can be augmented notably and that the sphere of its actions can be spread to the whole of Lebanon. In other words, the United States would like to perpetuate its military presence in Lebanon. In the past it did this in the Sinai. If the so-called peace-keeping contingent of the United States secured the rear for Israel's aggression in Lebanon, at present the American troops in Lebanon can be viewed as support in the event of an Israeli attack on Syria.

The highly dangerous situation in the Middle East is rooted in the joint aggressive actions of the United States and Israel. The two strategic allies as they call themselves, pursue the same goal. One is wiping out the Palestinian Arabs. Washington and Tel Aviv view the Palestinians and the Palestine Liberation Organization as a stumbling block on the way of conquering all other Arab peoples. While the United States' so-called peace-makers come up with cheerful statements Tel Aviv is deliberately continuing a policy of genocide toward the Palestinian Arabs. To drive the Palestinians from the native land for good, all kinds of reprisals and all types of weapons are used, including toxic agents.

And here's the latest example: More than 200 schoolgirls have been gassed in the Palestinian city of Janin. According to doctors, the girls were exposed to nerve gas. Toxic agents are used against Arab children; phosphorous and cluster bombs are dropped on the people of Lebanon; knives and grenades are used against the unarmed people of the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian refugee camps -- these are stages of a criminal aggression which Israel has been carrying out against the peoples of the Middle East with the direct backing of the United States.

ISRAELIS REPORTEDLY GAS PALESTINIAN CHILDREN

LD282320 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] Amman March 28 TASS -- Over 300 Palestinian schoolgirls had to be hospitalised as a result of a heavy gas poisoning in the town of Janin in the West Bank of the Jordan River, occupied by Israel. The Palestinian news agency WAFA reports that the Israeli occupiers have used toxic gases against pupils of secondary schools for girls in Jenin, who took part in mass demonstrations to protest the violence on the part of the invaders. WAFA describes these criminal acts as an attempt to intimidate the Palestinians living in the area.

BRIEFS

TASS-ANA AGREEMENT -- Aden, March 25 TASS -- A new agreement on cooperation between TASS and the ADEN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) and protocols for 1983-1984 have been signed here. The documents [word indistinct] a broader exchange of information and wider technical cooperation were signed by TASS Director General S.A. Losev and ANA General Director N.M. Ibrahim. The TASS director general was received by Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Chairman of the State Committee for Information 'Ali 'Abd ar-Razzaq Ba'dib. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 25 Mar 83 LD]

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SITUATION IN NICARAGUA

U.S.-Made Weapons Captured

LD282123 Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] Managua March 28 TASS -- At a press conference held here journalists have been shown a "M-79" jet grenade launcher, "M-16" automatic rifles, "M-1" carbines, bazookas, mines labelled "Made in the USA". The weapons and ammunition were taken from Somoza men in the course of fighting against big gangs, who invaded the territory of Nicaragua from Honduras. As was reported at the press conference by Chief of the State Security Administration of Nicaragua L. Cerna, nerve gas grenades, left by the bandits, were discovered after the rout of one of such counter-revolutionary groups. Demonstrating one of such grenades, he said that the United States had used that barbarous weapon during the dirty war in Vietnam, and now it supplied Somoza thugs with that weapon. The CIA, said L. Cerna, reinforces counter-revolutionary groupings with foreign mercenaries. One of them, 48-year-old Guatemalan Jose Gregorio Najera [TASS spelling], who was taken prisoner by fighting men of the Sandinist people's army, was presented to journalists.

Jose Gregorio Najero, who was recruited by the CIA and the military intelligence service of Honduras, underwent a course of training in Tegucigalpa. CIA "specialists" were instructors at the intelligence school, said the mercenary. That bandit handed over his "knowledge" to Somoza thugs, training them, together with American military instructors, at one of the camps near the Nicaraguan frontier.

As was noted by Jose Gregorio Najera, a secret meeting, attended by CIA representative, was held at the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Honduras in December last year. The meeting adopted the decision on broad-scale aggressive action against Nicaragua, specifically, organization of subversive acts at enterprises and assassination attempts on the lives of Nicaraguan leaders.

The sending of bandit formations into Nicaragua began early this year, in accordance with the plan, drawn up by the United States. One of such units was commanded by former officer of the Somoza "National Guards" Petro Antony Vidaure [TASS spelling]. When taken prisoner, he said that his group had had the task of staging ambushes and arranging acts of sabotage at the Jinotega department with a view of capturing a number of settlements there. The Somoza men were supplied with food, weapons and ammunition by air from Honduras.

'Major' CIA 'Operation'

LD281838 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 28 Mar 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Excerpt] A calm situation is being maintained over the greater part of the territory of Nicaragua. The Army and the people are displaying vigilance in connection with the attempts by the counterrevolutionary forces, supported and directed by the United States. [Video shows uniformed men and young people carrying arms, aerial shots of border area with helicopters flying over, followed by shots of armed men going down a slope.] Bands of mercenaries are being concentrated on the border regions of Honduras. Under the leadership of American officers they are preparing to move into Nicaragua. The CIA is sending terroritsts by secret paths from the territory of Honduras into northern parts of Nicaragua; other formations, Tomas Borge, Nicaraguan minister for internal affairs, has stated, are being brought by air into the center of the country. [Video shows aircraft dropping parachutists.]

At the same time the threat remains of an invasion by bandits on the Pacific coastline of Nicaragua. The CIA is carrying out a major operation for the destabilization of the Sandinista government, the NBC television company reports. The operation that is now being carried out in Nicaragua is described by American observers as the second phase of a long-term CIA plan to overthrow the Sandinista government. The first phase envisaged the recruitment and training of counterrevolutionaries in Honduras; the second phase was the penetration of Nicaragua by Somoza men and the organization there of a series of acts of sabotage and attacks on posts of the Sandinist people's army.

ACCUSATIONS OF SOVIET MILITARY PRESENCE REJECTED

PY290201 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America 0130 GMT 27 Mar 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In Washington, President Reagan clumsily tried once again to demonstrate Soviet military presence in Central America and the Caribbean. In his television appearance, President Reagan exhibited some photos which supposedly prove the growing Soviet military intervention in that region. One of the photos showed the Managua airport with three Soviet-made helicopters standing on the runways. As Reagan put it, this quantity is sufficient to take over almost all Central America. Another photo showed a building under construction in Grenada at a civilian airport necessary for the island's development, which was referred to as a Soviet military base. The picture show -- as journalists dubbed Reagan's television appearance -- cannot resist criticism. It should be pointed out that the Soviet helicopters have nothing to do with activities which Reagan tries so hard to prove. These helicopters are used for purely peaceful activities, such as evacuation of persons from areas which are being infiltrated by Somozists and Honduran soldiers, and for saving lives of people whom the so-called freedom fighters try to kill or repress. Two of those helicopters were not long ago shot down in the middle of a Nicaraguan forest and tens of women and children fleeing the brutality of the pro-American interventionists died. Speaking of the Saint Georges' Airport, the Grenada Government had requested money from the Inter-American Development Bank some time ago for its construction, but due to pressure from Washington, credits were not granted. So then Grenada accepted Cuba's help to construct the airport, which is very important to the country's infrastructure. Grenada's UN representative, Caldwell Taylor, branded Reagan's assertions that the airport under construction in Grenada poses a threat to the United States as silly and provocative. The Grenadian diplomat pointed out that the project involves the construction of a civilian international airport to which access is not restricted, and so Reagan had no need to take air photos.

This is not the first time for U.S. leaders to come out all wet from manipulating pictures for propagandistic purposes. During the Carter administration, the CIA produced a picture of a construction in Cuba and called it a Soviet military installation. In reality, it was nothing more than a radiotelephonic communications center built by none other than the U.S. company International Telephone and Telegraph [ITT] during the Batista regime. A clarification was made by ITT executives unaware that by doing so they were at cross purposes with the White House. The U.S. leaders were caught again in a similar indecent plot when showing pictures to prove alleged Sandinist bestiality. In a press conference, the then Reagan Secretary of State Alexander Haig presented pictures of burning bodies and said that they were bodies of Miskito Indians assassinated by Nicaraguan authorities. A few days later Haig had to take back his words because a French private news agency discovered that those pictures had been taken during battles between Sandinists and Somoza guardsmen, and that the bodies were those of peaceful civilians executed by the tyrant's henchmen and being cremated by the Nicaraguan Red Cross to prevent an epidemic. Of course, one can just laugh at the carelessly mounted U.S. picture show. But the thing is that this is a facade for a policy of intervention in the internal affairs of Central America and the Caribbean, a facade to serve as a pretext for new criminal and aggressive actions against freedom-loving peoples.

PRAVDA DISCUSSES MARX' POLITICAL ECONOMY

PM251721 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 83 First Edition pp 2-3

[E. Pletnev article under the rubric "Questions of Theory": "The Political Economy of the Victory of Labor Over Capital" -- capitalized words printed in boldface]

[Text] The words quoted in the headline express the essence of Lenin's characterization of K. Marx' political economy -- the consistently scientific, revolutionary nature of that teaching. K. Marx' discovery of the secret of capitalist exploitation and his analysis of the production of surplus value -- the source of the income of all parasitical classes and strata -- caused the "strong of this world" and their henchmen to embark on a crusade against his teaching. "The unique nature of the material which political economy deals with," the creator "Das Kapital wrote, "brings into the arena of the struggle against free scientific research the fiercest, basest, most repulsive passions of the human soul -- the furies of private interest." (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works, Vol 23, p 10)

As a counterweight to bourgeois political economy, which was endeavoring to "perpetuate" the system of wage slavery and had lost all vestiges of a scientific approach for the sake of protecting hard cash, K. Marx created a genuinely scientific, working-class political economy which proved irrefutably the historically transient nature of capitalism and the inevitability of its replacement by a new, communist mode [sopsob] of production. As V.I. Lenin noted, K. Marx' economic teaching is applicable "both to the COMING collapse of capitalism and to the FUTURE development of FUTURE communism." (V.I. Lenin: Complete Collected Works, Vol 33, p 84)

All Marx' genius, as Lenin observed, lies in the fact that he gave the answers to questions which mankind's foremost thinking had already posed.

But the living nature of Marxism is such that the answers, once found, do not turn into dogma but sever as the foundation for new theoretical quests and give true guidelines for understanding the present day.

Here, for instance, are a few of the urgent questions of political economy in our time. Can modern capitalism, by mobilizing anticommunist forces, stop the formation of the economic and sociopolitical preconditions within the old system for its revolutionary transformation into socialism? How can the development of political economic theory in full accordance with the practical progress of real communist building be ensured? How can the future of the majority of countries be defined from the standpoint of working-class political economy, when as yet it is difficult to characterize their present from the viewpoint of the main political economic criterion -- the specific mode of production? Marx' economic teaching -- the political economy of the era of all mankind's transition to communism -- is called upon to answer these questions.

I.

K. Marx' "unforgivable sin" in the eyes of the exploiters and parasites and his invaluable service to the exploited and oppressed is his approach to capitalism as a constantly changing living organism. Bourgeois society, the author of "Das Kapital" wrote, "is not a solid crystal, but an organism capable of transformations and in a constant process of transformation." (Vol 23, p 11). Marx' discovery and study of surplus value -- a discovery unprecedented in its scientific revolutionary approach and its fundamental nature -- is itself unquestionable evidence of the transient nature of the capitalist mode of production.

But the supreme sicentific effectiveness of Marx' political economy lies not only in the discovery of the secret of the production of surplus value, which dons all kinds of new guises today, but also in the discovery of the economic and social preconditions for socialism and the objective conditions and subjective factors for its creation which are accumulated within capitalism.

V.I. Lenin, taking up Marx' approach to the development of the capitalist mode of production as the process of accumulation of the economic preconditions for the transition to socialism, wrote that with the establishment of monopolies capitalists are drawn "against their will and unconsciously into some kind of new social order which is transitional from completely free competition to complete socialization." (Vol 27, pp 320-321). For Lenin, state monopoly capitalism was the fullest material preparation, the threshold of socialism, the last step toward it. In Lenin's understanding the material preconditions of socialism are by no means only the physical factors (enterprises, communications, machines), but all forms of the socialization of production, labor, consumption, accounting, and the control of education. Lenin wrote specifically of "such economic preconditions." (Vol 33, p 100).

Naturally, today, in the highly developed state monopoly, economic conditions of the capitalist countries, the maturity of the objective and subjective preconditions cannot fail to improve. After all, there is a vast distance between the production forces of K. Marx' day, with planned production at individual factories, each of which exploited a few hundred workers, and the world market of the 19th century, in which the great thinker perceived the preconditions for socialism, on the one hand; and on the other today's arsenals of state regulation of the entire economy on the basis of long-term programs, contract systems, and transnational concerns, with hundreds of thousands of wage slaves on different continents.

The basic contradiction of bourgeois society now takes the form of the open divergence between the class -- that is, private -- goals of state monopoly regulation and internationally socialized production. This "regrouping" of antagonistic forces is the source of new crises and shocks, including some which are manufactured artificially in order to lesson the force of cyclical blows. As Marx foresaw, the duration of the industrial cycle is steadily shortening. As a result additional crises break into the normal cyclical life of capital, as happened in the seventies, with three recessions in succession. And the interim crises lead directly into the next cyclical crisis (as in the early eighties).

State monopoly capitalism's attempt to adapt the scientific and technical revolution to suit its own selfish goals is another example of the strategy of trying to slow down the planet's social rotation. As is known, the scientific and technical revolution. As is known, the scientific and technical revolution, by making fundamentally new demands on the work force, made it possible to make the exploitation not of simple labor, but of complex labor, that is, working people armed with knowledge -- the predominant source of the production of surplus value. This is a gold mine for the monopolies, since complex labor, even when the working week is shortened, supplies larger quantities of value and therefore of surplus value. So it turns out, as Yu. V. Andropov has noted, that "the more physical and intellectual forces the worker uses, the more he increases the might of his oppressors."

But the increase in expenditure on the formation of the complex work force had an unfavorable effect on the organic structure of capital. Hence the measures to go back to the former growth of the organic composition of capital. Hence too the unrestrained growth -- not confined to cyclical fluctuations -- in the army of many millions of unemployed, an army better educated than ever before. Hence also the accumulation of "social combustibles" [goryuchiy].

Lastly, the arms race, the fattening up of the military-industrial complex and the plundering of funds from social programs have had an undesirable effect for the imperialists. This has led to the masses' growing attraction to the anti-imperialist role and the struggle for peace.

II.

Marx' working-class political economy is based not only on the discovery of the laws of the crushing of capitalist exploitation by that class, but also on its teaching on social production governed by "social foresight, wherein lies the political economy of the working class." (Vol 16, p 9)

K. Marx' works give a general characterization of the future collectivist society created by the revolutionary proletariat, an analysis of the political-economic and historical conditions for the transition to that society and indications of the lower and higher phases of communism. As V.I. Lenin noted, Marx gave an "analysis of what could be called the degrees of economic maturity of communism." (Vol 33, p 98).

It was the noble lot of V.I. Lenin himself to reveal the distinctive stages of the development of real socialism in the USSR. After Lenin, our Communist Party creatively continued that work. Of all its theoretical services, the most important was indisputably the elaboration of the concept of the developed society. Mature socialism is called upon to unite the achievements of the scientific and technical revolution organizationally with the advantages of the socialist economy, go over to a system of plans and a predominantly intensive type of reproduction, and raise the development of the socialist way of life to a new level. It is in the process of improvement that mature socialism will develop into communism.

It is now particularly important to ensure the vanguard role of political-economic theory -- this alone can provide the prop for highly efficient economic practice.

The accumulation of many unresolved tasks in the political economy of socialism sometimes gives rise to the false impression that a general theory is unnecessary. It must be said frankly that attempts to ignore the basics of political-economic theory (and inadequate attention to the development of that theory on the part of economists themselves) are always fraught with the danger of serious miscalculations in economic practice. The ideological and political "costs" are also great, since a loophole is created for the entry of the concepts of "market socialism." That is why such importance is attached to the conviction which has matrued in our society that an irresponsible, nihilistic attitude to economic science is impermissible.

Economic theory finds the key to the resolution of fundamental questions in K. Marx' unfading ideas on the communist society. Of course, it would be foolish to seek readymade formulas in Marx' texts, particularly on such concrete problems as the economic machinery and the management and planning of the socialist economy. But Marx has something far more important -- a political economic approach to specific phenomena of social production and an intersector view of the optimization of the national economic complex.

As is known, K. Marx did not in general include the industrial sector as an object of study for political economy. In its most acute form the difference in the approach of sector economic disciplines on the one hand and political economy on the other to national economic problems amounts to the following.

The view "from within" each sector (department) presupposes priority for its interests, while the national economy itself is made up of the various coexisting sectors (departments).

The inertia of the sector approach and the departmental structure of production management leads to ineradicable shortages resulting from the fact that the sector "monopolist" approach has an interest in increasing prices, in the underutilization of equipment, in its non-renewability, and so forth. Hence the tardy restructuring of the production apparatus, slow introduction of leading manufacturing methods, and so forth.

The political economic viewpoint, on the other hand, proceeds on the basis of the need to optimize the structure of the national economic complex through the planned distribution of resources among sectors (departments), which exist only by virtue of their contribution to this progress.

The CPSU set the example of bringing intersector priorities to the fore and adopting a truly political economic approach to optimizing the structure of the USSR's national economic complex. As long as the 25th party congress a course of creating a system of management of groups of similar and interconnected sectors, intersector management subunits, and territorial production complexes was adopted.

The objective requirements of the intersector approach to the economy are realized in the USSR Food Program. The agroindustrial complex has become the target for planning and the distribution of capital investments, the focus of the formation of specialist cadres, the source of further transformations of socioeconomic living conditions, and the aspect of the countryside.

The formation of blocs of interconnected sectors in the conditions of mature socialism also requires the singling out of a whole system of mass spiritual production. As is known, K. Marx distinguished between material and spiritual production as two interacting spheres of the creation of wealth. But whereas in his day, spiritual production was not of a mass nature, under socialism it has become a developed system for the formation of the working person's personality. It incorporates science, education, health care, services, information, culture, mass leisure services, and so forth. Taking part in the realization of socialism's supreme goal -- the all-round, harmonious development of working people -- social labor in this sphere gains particular significance and invariably increases its weight. Here is a boundless area for studies and recommendations by the political economy of socialism.

III.

The creation of a communist society on the planet was conceived of by Marx as a worldwide historical act by mankind, eliminating all the barriers erected by exploiter societies which hamper the all-round development of each individual: "The development of the abilities of the species 'MAN', although at first it takes place at the expense of the majority of human individuals and even entire human classes, will ultimately destroy that antagonism and coincide with the development of each separate individual." (Vol 26, Part II, p 123)

Mankind's path to that harmony is incredibly difficult. After all, the vast bulk of the human race is cast out by capitalism and colonialism (in their most "modern" forms) from human living conditions and cultural benefits.

The lot of the three-fourths of the planet's population living in countries which have recently gained liberation from the colonial yoke is particularly intolerable. A billion people are not guaranteed proper nutrition; more than a billion do not have enough drinking water; about a billion do not receive medical services, are homeless, and are illiterate.

To continue this list of "billions," by the year 2000 it will include a billion people seeking jobs or children who need schools. More precisely, in order to effectively fill the sought-for billion jobs, all the job-seekers must pass through a network of school and vocational training available to all.

These are the urgent, crying needs of the vast majority of the people of the earth.

The capitalist colonialists destroyed very rich civilizations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. And colonialism and neocolonialism deprived the peoples of those continents almost entirely of the opportunity to have access to the culture of industrial production and receive modern education. The vast bulk of mankind, being cast into the abyss of backwardness, has only one way left to gain civilization -- the struggle against all forms of exploitation and oppression. Hundreds of millions of people are becoming more and more consciously involved in this struggle, as Lenin noted.

The objective difficulties of the conscious transformation of the social conditions of the existence of these masses of the peoples are all the more complex in that, across entire continents, archaic socioeconomic systems are either falling apart in clashes among each other or are preserved by their former world economic dependences. In any event the picture is so varied in the liberated countries that many of them cannot yet be characterized from the viewpoint of the decisive political economic criterion -- the specific mode of production. This makes it more difficult to reveal the prospects and preconditions for the liberated states to overcome the stage of capitalist "prehistory" and to make the transition to the conscious creation by free peoples of their own history. Marxist economic theory still has to find answers to the new questions of the liberation, but the strength of creative Marxism is precisely that it has never shut itself off from the masses' life and struggle.

K. Marx said that theory becomes a material force when it takes hold of the masses. But he added in this connection that in order to take hold of the masses it must be directly relevant to man and must be sufficiently radical. In other words -- Lenin's words -- the more profound the planned transformation, "the more it is necessary to increase interest in it, develop a conscious attitude to it, and to convince more and more millions and tens of millions of people of the necessity for it." (Vol 42, p 140)

The strength of Marxist-Leninist economic teaching lies in its relevance to the vital interests of the masses of working people and its ability to give answers to people's urgent questions. That is why Marxism's economic teaching has rightly become the political economy of the era of mankind's worldwide transition to communism.

DECREE ON GROMYKO FIRST DEPUTY PREMIERSHIP

PM281441 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on the appointment of Comrade A.A.Gromyko as first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees:

That USSR Foreign Minister Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko be appointed first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;
T. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Moscow, Kremlin, 24 March 1983.

ZAGLADIN EXAMINES TOPICALITY OF MARX TEACHING

PM151011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Mar 83 First Edition pp 3-4

[V. Zagladin article under the "Questions of Theory" rubric: "Marx -- Our Contemporary"]

[Text] I.

On the ideological battlefields at the end of our century, perhaps the fiercest area is the debate surrounding Marxism-Leninism. This debate has acquired a special pitch now in connection with the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx -- a date which prompts all thinking mankind to once more turn its eyes and minds to the founder of scientific communism. And this is hardly a surprise.

Some 100 years after the death of the "great Moor," the ideas first put forward by him and Friedrich Engels -- his immortal friend -- and subsequently developed under new conditions by Lenin have truly become the rulers of the minds of progressive mankind. And not just the minds. The building of the new socialist civilization has been in progress now for nearly two-thirds of a century on the basis of these ideas.

None of this, of course, bothers the opponents of the great revolutionary teaching. Refusing to take account of reality they continue to declare (how many times!) That Marxism-Leninism has "not been borne out" and has "not withstood the test of history." In fact, however, these increasingly acute attacks of theirs do not by any means attest to Marxism's exhaustion of its historical role but, on the contrary, to the growth in its significance as the inspirational banner of the revolutionary forces. And, indeed, were Marxism-Leninism a teaching which had "outlived its age" as its opponents try to represent it, would they need to make such desperate efforts to fight against it?

It must be said bluntly that all those who oppose scientific socialism -- its theory and practice -- are now, in Marx's memorial year, in a strange if not bizarre position. On the one hand they are doubling and trebling their attacks against Marxism-Leninism, communism and communists and their revolutionary theory. On the other hand they are forced to pay due tribute to Karl Marx, that same Marx who laid the foundation for this theory.

But could they do anything different? The gigantic figure of Marx truly bestrides the ages. The supreme authority of his life's exploits, scientific discoveries and revolutionary selflessness cannot be removed from the annals of mankind's existence. It is now impossible "not to acknowledge Marx" even if you hold diametrically opposed positions.

There are those who do not "acknowledge" him, of course. Moreover, they have always existed, even during Marx' time. F. Engels once gave a very vivid characterization of that type of bourgeois figure. "The report," Engels wrote, "was compiled by Dr Bluntschli, an aristocrat and a fanatical supporter of Christianity; and all that he wrote, therefore, called to mind more a prejudiced denunciation than a dispassionate official report. It depicts communism as an extremey dangerous doctrine which overturns all existing order and destroys all society's sacred bonds". (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works, Vol 1, p 536) Last century, the "Dr Bluntschlis" staged phoney trials against "Dr Marx" and his supporters. Now, not satisfied with this, they are declaring "crusades" against communism and are formulating global plans for exporting counter-revolution under the false cover of "introducing democracy."

However, even those bourgeois opponents of Marxism who are now forced to recognize his merits only do so with regard to the past.

Yes, "Dr Marx" was a great socialist. Yes, he did much for the analysis of the "old capitalism which no longer exists." But now...now he is a historical figure, nothing more.

And of course, even those who consent to such a compromise with their bourgeois conscience deny with might and main that there was any connection between Marx and Lenin, deny the indissoluble unity of their theoretical conclusions and revolutionary practice, deny Marxism-Leninism. They demand that Marx be "purged" of all who follow and continue him. With regard to Marxism-Leninism, even Western liberal scientists sometimes turn into "Dr Bluntschlis," hurling thunder and lightning against this "profane" and "subversive" theory.

However, no thunder or lightning can turn the truth into lies. Marxism and Leninism are not two different or -- what is more -- two opposing doctrines, but a single unified whole. Of course, there are differences between Marx' creation and Lenin's creation, but this is a difference of eras and, therefore, of accentuation in the examination of particular issues. But that is all.

One could say that had Lenin not been a Marxist to the core, these differences probably would not have existed. Lenin, continuing Marx' creation, approached Marxism as a genuine revolutionary science. That is, by studying in depth and carefully preserving its bases, he developed it boldly and creatively and contributed new ideas and new emphasis to it. Marx' works exuded and overflowed with all the living colors of the 19th century, a century when the working class, entering the arena of history for the first time, first gave battle to their class enemy. Lenin's works reflected in all their diversity the first decades of the 20 century -- a century of unprecedented turbulence and revolutionary upheavals -- when the working class began the socialist transformation of the world. "Marxism without and apart from Leninism in our age is simply impossible," Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has remarked.

Marxism-Leninism has become the supreme synthesis of the thinking of the giants of revolution. It has united -- firmly and organizally -- the great discoveries which formed the basis of contemporary social thought: Marx' analysis of surplus value which made it possible to expose the bases of capitalism's existence and the law-governed nature of its inevitable decline as a formation; Marx' formulation of the materialist concept of history which made it possible to define the social force which is expected to pass history's sentence on capitalism; Lenin's conclusion on capitalism's entry into its final -- imperialist -- stage and the possibility of the transition from capitalism to socialism in one single country; Lenin's discovery of the law-governed features of the transition from capitalism to socialism; and the formulation and practical assimiliation under Lenin's leadership of the real paths of the socialist restructuring of society.

II.

If you try to evaluate Marxism-Leninism's role now from the heights scaled by mankind on the path of the socialist transformation of life, it becomes clear why genuine revolutionaries defend and develop its teaching with fervor and whey the apologists of recent world history attack it with such ferocity.

Above all, Marxism-Leninism, as F. Engels put it, revealed to the proletariat which is expected to accomplish the radical social restructuring of the world, "the conditions and nature of its own cause" (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works, Vol 19, 230). It enabled the working class to learn the essence of their historic mission and armed it with an understanding of how the proletariat could accomplish that mission. Without Marxism-Leninism the working class would not have accomplished that historic deed in our country or in a number of other socialist countries. Without Marxism-Leninism there would have been no modern communist and workers movement.

However, Marxism-Leninism, which focused its efforts primarily on revealing the working class' role and historic calling, by no means ignored the other working and oppressed strata of society. It was not the Marxists by the anti-Marxists who saw the nonproletarian strata of the working people as "a completely reactionary mass." Marxism-Leninism, on the other hand, analyzed most profoundly the complex and multifarious processes occurring in the world of labor. Indicating the entire contradictory nature of these processes, it drew the conclusion that the nonproletarian strata of the working people -- the peasantry above all -- were not the enemies but the allies of the working class both on the national and the international level. Meanwhile it is the working class which expresses the radical interests of all working people.

Hence two very important conclusions for the present day: The tremendous significance of the alliance of workers and peasants, and, in our time, of the working class and all masses of working people oppressed by the monopolies as the decisive factor in the struggle for democracy and socialism; and the historic significance of the alliance between the workers movement and the movement of the colonial and dependent countries' peoples, and, in our time, the movement of the developing countries' peoples for national independence and social progress.

Does one need to prove that these two conclusions -- conclusions which subsequently materialized in numerous socialist and national liberation revolutions and which have today become the basis for an unprecedented broadening of the scale of the general democratic struggle, which, by dint of objective circumstances, and, primarily, as a result of the growing oppression by interlocked international capitalism, is drawing more closely and firmly together with the struggle for socialism -- have greatly determined the appearance of the modern world.

Further, Marxism-Leninism, which from its birth regarded social development as a unified natural historical process, could not fail to draw the most earnest attention to the major problems arising as it progressed, problems ultimately affecting the interests of all mankind and its very "tribal [rodovoy] existence."

The society of class antagonisms, Marx and Engels showed, engendered grave conflicts both in relations among people and in relations between people and nature. Communism is to lead to the genuine solution of the contradictions between individuals between the individual and the species at large [rod], and between the individual and nature. (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works, Vol 42, p 116)

These ideas of genius on the part of the founders of scientific socialism were developed in depth by Lenin. He lived and worked in an age when the contradictions revealed by Marx and Engels in the development of mankind as a species acquired a dangerous scale. And of course, Lenin drew special attention to the wars produced by the society of class antagonisms and which became particularly dangerous in the imperialist era. With the appearance of new types of weapons, Lenin believed, wars would become capable of undermining the very conditions of society's life. Hence the working class' great responsibility in the struggle against imperialist militarism. Hence also the special responsibility of socialist society -- a society of labor whose international principle would be peace, as Marx wrote. (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works, Vol 17, p 5)

Marxism-Leninism's posing in broad terms of the global issues of mankind's development; the close link between the definitive solution of those issues and the working class' fulfillment of their historic mission, and the victory of socialism and communism have essentially become one of the principled bases of Marxism humanism -- communism humanism -- which Marx considered the only real one. There is no need to prove that these ideas are now a very powerful weapon in the struggle to save mankind and its future from those threats that imperialism is reproducing on a truly colossal scale.

And last, but by no means least. As Marx aptly put it in his "Theses on Feuerbach," in the past philosophers merely tried to explain the world. Developing Marx' thesis, it may be said furthermore that the energy of those philosophers was channeled overwhelmingly toward consolidating and preserving social orders which were essentially outmoded. A very few works of a different type -- forward-looking teachings -- lacked a genuinely scientific basis and remained appealing and attractive but nevertheless utopian. Marxism-Leninism, whose most important component is its teaching on socialism and communism, was the first theory in history which transformed the beautiful dream of a just social system and the socialist utopia into a science. Furthermore, it was also the first teaching in mankind's spiritual history whose conscious application formed the basis for the creation of a new society.

Marxism-Leninism first entered the area of historical action as a scientific theory which became the implement for the practical transformation of society, and a true and accurate instrument no only of the scientist but also of the practical builder of socialism and communism.

Does one need to prove that the emergence and development of socialism with all the complexities of its formation and its development conflicts, its constant growth, and its continued deepening and improvement represent that basic phenomenon which since 25 October 1917 has been increasingly determining both the appearance of the modern world and the general course of human history?

III.

An age-old stumbling block for philosophers is the question of the relationship between the general and the particular. For politicians, it is the problem of combining the international and the national. Naturally, both these questions are of tremendous significance for any revolutionary. The greatest merit of Marxism-Leninism is that on the basis of a profound philosophical study of these problems it has found strict, accurate, scientifically substantiated solutions to them.

The point is that Marxism-Leninism itself is the only teaching in the world to be universal and comprehensive in its nature, the only teaching which has offered and continued to offer -- with the consistently creative approach, not a dogmatic one, of course -- the opportunity to correctly resolve any regional or national problems.

I believe this exceptional feature of Marxist-Leninist teaching was predetermined by the fact that the material for its elaboration was, to use Lenin's famous expression in relation to "Das Kapital," a real mountain of facts. Facts relating in essence to all periods of mankind's history and different parts of the world. From the historical, economic, and philosophical viewpoints Marx, Engels, and, later, Lenin studied these facts in the greatest depth and passed them through their creative laboratory. What interested them was not national peculiarities but, first and foremost, general laws. And not farfetched or invented laws but only those which really emerged from real experience and living historical development.

The laws of historical development discovered by Marxism constitute, if I may put it like this, the living, dialectical essence of that development, its most general formula. And that is why that general formula is suitable as an instrument for the analysis and synthesis of any real national situation.

It is well known, of course, that the correctness of this general formula and its "appropriateness" to any historical and national conditions have more than once been refuted and are now being actively refuted by Marxism's opponents. But the position of these opponents cannot be regarded as enviable.

For in practice all the main predictions made by Marxism during its existence have been entirely fulfilled.

Yes, there have been "shifts" in time, but both Marx and Lenin often said themselves: Real life is more "cunning" than the best formulas. But the essence of the Marxist-Leninist prediction has been entirely confirmed by history. Indeed, has not their analysis of the working class' role in world development been confirmed? Has not the prediction on the worldwide, international nature of the process of formation of the new society been confirmed? Has not the conclusion on the innovative, genuinely humanist nature of the socialist society created by the working class been confirmed?

Of course, at times all this is denied, first and foremost by bourgeois ideologists. Of course, they deny both the role of the proletariat and the humanist essence of socialism. They suggest that there is no higher democracy than bourgeois pluralism and no freedom greater than the "freedom" to combat socialism. But is all this new? Of course not! Let us listen to Marx again. Here is what he wrote more than a century ago: "The assertion that free competition amounts to the ultimate form of development of productive forces and therefore of human freedom amounts to saying that the state of the bourgeoisie means the end of world history -- doubtless a pleasing thought for yesterday's parvenus." (K. Marx and F. Engels: Works, Vol 46, part II p 156).

The universal force of Marxism-Leninism in our day is also manifested in the fact that it is spreading unprecedentedly throughout the globe. There is truly no country, no social group which has escaped its beneficial influence.

Of course, the main strength and material base of Marxist-Leninist theory and practice has been, is, and will remain the working class. But it is also very important that revolutionary democrats and forces emerging from the national liberation struggle are in our time becoming increasingly closely associated with and are adopting Marxism-Leninism. Is not the spread of Marxist-Leninist ideas among the young intelligentsia and in wide scientific circles in the most diverse countries significant?

The universality and general significance of Marxism-Leninism has been proved by history both positively and negatively, so to speak. To take the negative side first, we know of many attempts by figures in the workers movement to depart from Marxist-Leninist principles -- from Bernstein to some of our contemporaries. But -- and this rule has no exceptions -- wherever the followers of Bernstein and similar theorists of various "ways" lead, wherever you like, as long as it is away from Marxism-Leninism and thus from revolution -- wherever such people have been at the helm, history has slowed its pace. There have been cases where this slowing of the pace has taken the form of the collapse of revolutions which had already begun (as happened in Germany in 1918). There have been situations where the activity of people who have departed from the principled platform of Marxism-Leninism have caused grave crises and created real threats to the socialism which is already development, already being built (like, for instance, in Hungary in 1956 or Czechoslovakia in 1968). There have also been instances where the activity of pseudofollowers of Marx has led to the actual disintegration of revolutionary parties.

This is the negative proof. But of course, the greatest, most fundamental significance is attached to positive proof. Life has entirely confirmed the fact that the successful development of the class struggle and the successful building of a new society, in whatever form and in whatever different conditions it may be created, are possible only when communists remain loyal to Marxism-Leninism. Only when they approach their eaching creatively, that is, not repeating memorized phrases but relying on the principles and scientific methods of Marxism which have been tested by history, on the general laws it has discovered; and when they pursue a principled, class policy and develop their own independent line while remaining unswervingly oriented toward the common ultimate ideals of the working class and its Marxist party -- the ideals of communism.

In formulating all these conclusions we in no way go outside the framework of the facts -- facts which are common knowledge and can easily be checked.

It appears that all these facts, taken together, indicate most convincingly that the principles and methods of understanding and transforming the world elaborated by Marx, Engels, and Lenin, the Marxist-Leninist principles of revolutionary thought and revolutionary action, have been and remain the reliable, tried, and tested weapon of all true revolutionaries of our era.

These Marxist-Leninist principles are the true ideological banner of our dynamic age -- the age of the formation of a communist future for all mankind.

DEMICHEV ADDRESSES COMPOSERS UNION PLENUM

PM231507 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 12 Mar 83 pp 1, 2

[ETA report: "Ever-Living Art of the People: Plenary Session of Composers Union Board"]

[Excerpts] The problems of further developing Soviet multinational choral art, stimulating musicians' creative energies and mobilizing them to resolve the big and responsible tasks facing workers in culture and the arts during the 11th 5-Year Plan period were the focus of attention at the plenary session of the USSR Composers Union Board which continued its work 11 March in the Hall of Sessions of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet.

The closing speech at the plenary session was delivered by P. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Minister of Culture.

On behalf of the CPSU CEntral Committee and the Soviet Government he conveyed wishes for creative successes and for new and brilliant achievements to the participants in the plenum of the USSR composers Union Board. It can be noted with profound satisfaction, Comrade Demichev said, that festivals of Soviet music are becoming a fine tradition. The very first musical festival in Tashkent generated a broad response not only in Uzbekistan but throughout the country. The Tbilisi festival was very successful, and Tallinn became the center for the third festival. The holding of Soviet music festivals in the capitals of union republics is not only evidence of the high level of development of the whole of Soviet multinational musical culture but is also an indicator of the fact that interaction and mutual enrichment between fraternal cultures are rising to new heights in our country.

The USSR Composers Union Board holds its plenums during Soviet music festivals. This, too, is becoming a good rule. The festivals offer rich material for serious theoretical reflections and profound conclusions which make it possible to determine correctly the course for the further development of the whole of Soviet musical culture, to single out the main and determining factors, to perceive the still existing difficulties and shortcomings and to discover ways to put them right.

The present Soviet music festival and USSR Composers Union Board plenum are being held immediately after the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation by all Soviet people. The report by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the festive session held in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, gives all of us a precise Marxist-Leninist understanding of the historic results achieved in the implementation of the CPSU's nationalities policy and at the same time scientifically determines its future prospects.

In our country today there no longer are any culturally backward ethnic groups, as there were in the past. In all republics illiteracy has been eradicated, and detachments of scientific and artistic intelligentsia have been created which make a worthy contribution to the common cause of socialist culture. In parallel with the development of specific categories of folk art, opera, and ballet theaters, symphony orchestras, music schools and conservatories are active everywhere.

All this has laid firm foundations for a big upsurge in professional musical culture which enjoys widespread recognition not only in our own country but all over the world.

The jubilee year which has just passed demonstrated especially vividly the increased mutual interest of people from different republics in each other's musical culture. Suffice it to say that 46 percent of the productions staged at RSFSR musical theaters were the work of composers of different nationalities.

We can also speak of the new qualitative standards of musical folk art and the establishment of fine traditions which preserve the best of our peoples' creativity, and at the same time enrich them with new content and new forms. Suffice it to mention the mass song festivals in the Baltic republic. These are true people's festivals, festivals of working people. These festivals echo pride in the results achieved, glorify the best people, the real heroes of our times, and cultivate love for the motherland and Soviet patriotism. Similar people's festivals are becoming more and more widespread in all republics.

Increasingly responsible and extensive tasks are being set by the part of the cultural front, Comrade Demichev said.

The life of our party and our country today is determined by the results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum. The Central Committee plenum decisions are exerting a profound and positive influence on the solution of key problems of the country's socioeconomic and ideological life, on the enhancement of the sense of responsibility for the set task, and on the development of initiative and creativity in all sectors of party and state work.

The decisions of the Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the conclusions drawn by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov in his plenum speech are also exerting a profound influence in the cultural sphere.

The CPSU Central Committee November plenum turned the Soviet creative intelligentsia's attention to urgent, key problems of the country's social life. It has to consider more deeply the personal responsibility of each worker in culture and and the arts for resolving the key tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and the need to boost the social and ideological effectiveness of the entire cultural sphere.

Profound theoretical conclusions are contained in Yu.V. Andropov's aricle "The Teaching of Karl Marx and Certain Questions of Socialist Building in the USSR."

Foremost today are the questions of implementing practical measures capable of giving broad scope to the action of the colossal creative forces latent in our economy and of boosting each worker's personal responsibility and labor, state, and plan discipline. Without firm social order it is impossible to find solutions to all other problems.

The rate of development of social life has increased significantly. The fast progress in the development of the national economy resulting from the scientific and technical revolution and the intensification of production, the concentration of the party's and the people's efforts on resolving major agrarian problems; the dynamic social changes in the international situation -- all this requires from the arts the skill to respond with their own means to the topical problems of life.

Over the last few years Soviet art has taken a step forward in interpreting new topical subjects and in enhancing its role in ideological education and in the shaping of progressive morality. The influence of literature and the arts on the awareness of the masses has increased significantly.

At the same time, this does not under any circumstances give us any grounds whatsoever for equanimity. There still exist real difficulties and shortcomings and real problems concerning the further development of culture and the arts. We encounter the broad spread of inferior vocal and instrumental groups which are disseminators of fashions that are already outdated. The spread of consumerist attitude toward musical culture can be observed. We cannot fail to be concerned that in some places the number of choral collectives is falling. The young are giving up singing. At times a trend toward a decline in ideological standards can be observed in songwriting. Critics' reviews at times err on the side of overcomplimentarity and descriptiveness.

The CPSU Central Committee draws special attention to the further raising of ideological and artistic standards in our arts. The July 1982 CPSU Central Committee Resolution "On Literary Journals' Links with Communist Building Practice" sets the task of orienting literature and the arts more actively toward the urgent themes of our times and of creating the image of the positive hero close in spirit and time to the new generations of Soviet people, "who would be accepted as an artistic discovery, influence people's actions, and reflect the people's destiny."

Recently the CPSU Central Committee adopted a resolution "On the Work of the Party Organization at the Yanka Kupala Belorussian State Academy Theater" which clearly sets a range of fundamental tasks on which theatrical collectives must work under contemporary conditions. The resolution draws special attention to the ideological education of the creative intelligentsia and the correct ideological orientation of the theatrical process.

The adoption of these CPSU Central Committee resolutions is dictated by concern for the further development of Soviet art and by an understanding of the peculiarities of the contemporary ideological struggle, which also encompasses the sphere of the arts.

The party Central Committee draws attention to the need to create works which convincingly unmask the bourgeois way of life and the ideology and policy of imperialist reaction.

The sphere of culture and the arts, Comrade Demichev further stressed, is today the arena of the sharpest ideological struggle.

Our enemies are attempting by all means to create the impression that art is allegedly neutral in terms of its attitude to politics and that in the West the artist allegedly enjoys some kind of "absolute freedom." But this is a myth. Nowadays the subordination of culture and the arts to big business, monopolies, and state policy is a real fact of life in the bourgeois West.

The forces of reaction are attempting to raise a kind of barrier in the way of socialist culture. On the other hand, they are striving to exert an ideological influence on the creative intelligentsia in the countries of socialism, shift it from the positions of Marxism-Leninism and socialist realism, and discredit the principles of party mindedness and popular spirit in art.

Nevertheless, under the influence of Soviet culture, the positions of realist art are becoming ever stronger and the creative intelligentsia's yearning to raise major social, political, and philosophical problems is increasing. The creative intelligentsia is joining the struggle for peace and against the policy of imperialist reaction.

The key questions of contemporary world cultural development are whether imperialist reaction will succeed in imposing its ideological tenets, which are hostile to social progress, on culture and creating conditions for the dissemination of mass cultural consumerism, thus ensuring monopoly profits; or whether conditions will be preserved for the development of a living culture in keeping with the requirements of social progress and high ideological and artistic standards.

Will world culture serve the goals of strengthening peace and cooperation among peoples or will it turn into a means for the spiritual enslavement of the masses by imperialism?

We proceed from the position that culture is duty bound to contribute to social progress and the formation of a new man capable of resolving the most complicated problems of contemporary social development. Our socialist culture and its strategic goals are aimed at resolving these tasks.

There is no doubt, Comrade Demichev said in conclusion, that socialist culture, following the Leninist path, which has been verified by historical experience, will scale new heights and serve as a mighty force in the struggle for the cause of the party and the people, for the affirmation of the lofty ideals of communism!

RECENT LEADER APPEARANCES, ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Bodyul Attends Workers' Meeting

PM231435 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 83 Second Edition p 5

[TASS correspondent report: "In Honor of the Festival"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting devoted to the professional festival of the sectors' working people -- housing, municipal, and consumer service workers' day -- was held in the House of Unions Hall of Columns in Moscow 18 March.

Participating in the meeting were M.A. Yasnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; I.I. Bodyul, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; I.N. Dmitriyev, chief of a CPSU Central Committee section; leaders of a number of ministries and departments; foremost participants in socialist competition; and representatives of the capital's public.

The report was delivered by F.V. Popov, RSFSR minister of housing and municipal services.

Demichev Visits Padeyskiy Rayon

PM251133 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 13 Mar 83 p 1

[ETA report: "Acquaintance With Republic"]

[Text] On 12 March P. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, who is visiting the Estonian SSR, has been familiarizing himself with our republic.

The guest visited Paydeskiy Rayon, where he met and talked with the rayon leaders. Comrade P. Demichev also visited the "Devyotoye Maya" Kolkhoz, Paydeskiy Rayon, and familiarized himself with the farm and the kolkhoz members' work and daily life.

In Tartu city Comrade P. Demichev visited the "Vanemuyne" State Academy Theater, visited Tartu State University, and was shown the city sights.

The guest was accompanied on his tour by Comrades K. Vayno, R. Ristlaan, and I. Toome and by A. Gren, deputy chairman of the Estonian Council of Ministers.

Demichev Ends Estonia Visit

PM251131 Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 15 Mar 83 p 1

[ETA report: "Comrade P. Demichev's Stay in the Estonian SSR"]

[Excerpts] P. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, has spent several days in our republic.

On 13 March the guest left Tallinn. At the airport Comrade P. Demichev was seen off by Comrades K. Vayno, I. Kebin and V. Klauson, members and candidate members of the Estonian CP Central Committee Bureau, and other officials.

Demirchyan Delivers Report

LD242118 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] A meeting of the Armenian party aktiv was held today in Yerevan. There was discussion of the tasks arising from the report by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the joint festive meeting dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. A report was delivered by Comrade Demirchyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Armenia. It was noted that by the end of the current 5-year plan all branches of the Armenian SSR economy will undergo rapid development.

Those taking part in the meeting devoted much attention to the tasks of party organizations in successfully implementing the spring sowing, further developing socialist competition, raising the quality of work, and strengthening labor discipline.

Grishin Addresses Subbotnik Meeting

LD252300 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Today's meeting of representatives of Moscow enterprises for subbotnik preparation was addressed by Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom. The participants in the meeting sent a letter to the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

Grishin Attends Gorispolkon Meeting

LD231246 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 22 Mar 83

[Excerpt] A meeting of the Moscow Gorispolkom has just ended in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions. Here is a report from our correspondent, Olga Vasilenko, recorded during an interval between sittings:

The deputies today are discussing problems relating to every one of us: How the work of repair services, transportation, health care, and consumer services are organized in Moscow. In recent times, these matters have been given special attention. Much depends here on labor discipline and also the mood of the people. I will quote a few examples from the report of Vladimir Fedorovich Promyslov, chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom, which deals precisely with what has been done for Muscovites. Since the start of the 5-year plan 200 new stores have opened, as well as about 250 public catering enterprises, 250 clothing establishments, workshops, and reception points. New types and forms of service have appeared with the majority of orders now being taken from the home or work. The problem of kindergartens and creches is gradually being resolved.

And a positive fact one must mention is that the transfer of consumer services and medical care onto a new work regime was done quickly and in an organized way in Moscow. But, there still remain many problems. Muscovites complain about the inefficient work of dispatcher services, low quality of apartment repairs, irregularities in the work of public transportation particularly in peak hours, frequent cases where the schedule for filling orders for the repair of domestic appliances and repairing clothes is breached. And one must say that the deputies made very serious charges against managers about this. The session also discussed the quality of housing construction and the integrated development of new districts.

Taking part in the work of the session was Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorispolkom.

Grishin Addresses Moscow Builders

LD282125 Moscow Domestic Television in Russian 1800 GMT 28 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpt] Leading collectives of Moscow builders have put forward an initiative for workers to guarantee high-quality construction. The participants in a meeting of the party aktiv of organizations and enterprises in the capital, which was held today, called on construction workers to launch a mass movement to improve the quality of work and to hand over housing and amenities with warranty certificates. A report was delivered at the meeting by Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Moscow Gorkom. [Video shows Grishin reading report, cutting to shots of Dymshits, Novikov, Konotopov and Dmitriyev in the presidium] It was noted at the meeting that all the work by Moscow builders is being done under the profound influence of the CPSU Central Committee decision on measures to ensure the fulfillment of plans for the construction of housing and social amenities. Comrades Dymshits and Novikov, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Konotopov, first secretary of Moscow Obkom; and Comrade Dmitriyev, head of the Construction Department of the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the work of the meeting.

Marchuk in Honor Guard

PM251301 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 83 First Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Last Farewell"]

[Text] Moscow said its last farewell 24 March to twice Hero of Socialist Labor Academician I.M. Vinogradov, outstanding Soviet scientist, major organizer of science, and director of the USSR Academy of Sciences' V.A. Steklov Mathematical Institute.

The conference hall at the USSR Academy of Sciences Mathematical Institute was draped in mourning for the lying in state of the coffin with the deceased's body. In the hall were wreaths from the USSR Academy of Sciences, union republic academies, and the capital's scientific organizations. Resting on scarlet velvet were the decorations awarded to the scientist for his major contributions to the development of national and international mathematics.

The guard of honor included G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology; leaders of the USSR Academy of Sciences; CPSU Central Committee executives; scientists; and representatives of party and soviet organizations.

A funeral meeting took place at Novodevichye cemetery, where I.M. Vinogradov was buried.

Romanov Attends Leningrad Meeting

LD242342 Moscow Domestic Services in Russian 1730 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Excerpt] A general party meeting took place today at the Elektrosila Association in Leningrad. Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, delivered an information report on the work of the obkom in fulfilling the decisions of the 25th conference of the Leningrad Oblast party organization, in the light of the demands of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenums of the Central Committee.

Romanov Addresses Leningrad Obkom

LD231433 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 22 Mar 83

[Excerpt] A plenary meeting of the Leningrad Obkom was held in Smolnyy today. A progress report on the obkom's work to implement the decisions of the 25th Leningrad Oblast party conference in light of the demands of the 26th CPSU Congress and the subsequent plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee was presented for consideration. Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, spoke at the plenary meeting.

Participants in the plenary meeting concentrated their attention on the main directions of the party organization's work to implement the party's directions. There was also discussion on further improvement of economic leadership and on improving planning. The scientific center of the USSR Academy of Sciences will become the territorial organ for special purpose control of the development of scientific and technical progress. The center will coordinate the work of tens of scientific-research institutes, planning and design organizations and higher educational establishments.

Romanov Attends Leningrad CPSU Conference

LD252232 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] A conference at the Leningrad Oblast CPSU Committee today examined the procedure for improving the remuneration of designers and technologists at a number of production associations in the city. A decision on this was adopted by the USSR Council of Ministers. Specific measures ensured the successful conduct of this very important economic experiment, and the organizational conditions for its earliest introduction were discussed. Speaking at the conference were Comrade Romanov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of Leningrad Oblast CPSU Committee; Comrade Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and representatives of ministries, departments, and the AUCCTU.

Shcherbitskiy Addresses Kiev Meeting

AU252032 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1945 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] An aktiv meeting of the republic's party organization was held in Kiev today. It was attended by Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee members and candidate members, members of the Ukrainian Communist Party Auditing Commission, obkom secretaries, gorkom secretaries from large cities, Kiev city Raykom secretaries, oblispolkom chairmen, chairmen of oblast trade union councils, first secretaries of oblast Komsomol committees, leaders and party organization secretaries from the republic's ministries and departments as well as from a number of enterprises and associations, advanced production workers, scientists, workers of public education, culture, the press and radio, and servicemen.

Participating in the meeting proceedings were Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Vatchenko, Gerasimov, Yelchenko, Kachura, Yashko, Mozgovoy, Lsologub, Titarenko, Dobrik, Kapto, Kachalovskiy, Kolomiyets, Mukha, and Pogrebnyak, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo members and candidate members.

The meeting was opened by Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary.

The meeting's participants elected with great enthusiasm the CPSU Central Committee Politburo with Comrade Andropov, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, at the head, to the honorary presidium.

The aktivs meeting discussed the tasks of the republic's party organizations stemming from the report by Comrade Andropov, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, "The 60 Years of the USSR."

A report was delivered by Comrade Shcherbitskiy.

The speakers in the debate were: Yelchenko, Kiev Gorkom first secretary; Dobrik, Lvov Obkom first secretary; Kolesnikov, Stope brigade leader in the Molodogvardeyskaya Mine of the Krasnodor coal mining association; Mysnichenko, Kharkov Obkom first secretary; (Matsogura), general director of the "Novokramatorsk machine-building plant" production association; Galkin, Ukrainian minister of ferrous metallurgy; Boyko, Dnepropetrovsk Obkom first secretary; Chernichkin, Sevastopol Gorkom first secretary; (Shosti), milkmaid at the Druzhba Kolkhoz in Poltavskiy Rayon, Poltava Oblast; Yakovenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee's party organizer on a construction and assembly train of the Ukrainian Housing Construction Organization (in Tyumen); Sikba, Ivano-Frankovsk Obkom first secretary; Oleynik, board secretary of the Ukrainian Writers Union; Mironenko, Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee first secretary; Likhvonin, Political Directorate chief in the Black Sea Fleet decorated with the Red Banner Order; and Masol, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman and Gosplan chairman.

Comrade Shcherbitskiy delivered a concluding speech.

The aktiv meeting unanimously adopted a resolution. The meeting endorsed the measures worked out by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo for accomplishing the asks stemming from the report by Comrade Andropov, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, "The 60 Years of the USSR."

Shcherbitskiy Attends Academy Meeting

AU241040 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0330 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] The results of the activity of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in the second year of the 5-year period and tasks for 1983 are being discussed in detail at the academy's general meeting which opened in Kiev yesterday. Those gathered in the session hall of Kiev Gorispolkom were prominent scientists, leaders of research institutes, and higher educational establishments, and representatives of party, administrative, and public organizations.

Participating in the meeting were Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Vatchenko, Yelchenko, Kachura, Lyashko, Titarenko, Kapto, Kachalovskiy; (?Koziner), deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology; Academician (Ushinskiy), All-Union Council Chairman of Scientific and Technical Societies; Gurenko, Masol, and Nikolayev, Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairmen; Rudich, chief of the Science and Educational Institutions Department in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; and leaders of a number of ministries and departments.

Academician Paton, president of the Ukrainian academy of sciences, opened the meeting.

The meeting participants listened to a report by Acadmician Lukinov, vice president of the academy, entitled "Karl Marx and the Present Day," and a report by Bogatskiy, member of the republic's Academy of Sciences, entitled "The Teaching of Karl Marx and the Topical Problems of Scientific Cognition." Academician Paton, president of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, delivered a report on the main results of the activity of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in 1982 and the academy's tasks for 1983. He pointed out that, in the period under review, the academy had completed work on (?365) subjects, successfully fulfilled its socialist pledges, obtained nearly 2,000 patents for inventions and put into production more than 1,200 works with a total economic effect exceeding R915 million.

The meeting of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences was addressed by Titarenko, Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and second secretary. He noted a number of scientific papers, the great contribution made by the scientists in the construction of the Urengoy-Uzhgorod gas pipeline, the Baykal-Amur trunkline and atomic power stations, and emphasized the importance of the work aimed at reducing losses and utilizing waste in agricultural production, work which has been commended by the CPSU and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committees. The speaker emphasized the need to concentrate scientific forces on settling topical problems concerning the leading, basic branches of industry, primarily the coal industry, ferrous metallurgy, electric power production and engineering. It is important to increase the efforts of scientists to implement the Food Program. It is highly important, it was said, to raise the role of party organizations in the academy's establishments, which are called upon to be more energetic in enhancing initiative and efficiency, to cultivate in each scientist the feeling of responsibility for the commitment and to foster discipline in scientific (?research).

The scientists who took the floor in the debate profoundly analyzed the work performed by scientific establishments, and made concrete proposals aimed at raising the effectiveness of scientific research and at accelerating the application of its results in practice.

The meeting participants adopted an appeal to scientists in defense of mankind against the threat of a nuclear war and for disarmament and peace.

Recipients of prizes named after prominent Ukrainian scientists were presented at the meeting with certificates, and young scientists and students of higher educational establishments were presented with medals of the republic's Academy of Sciences for their outstanding scientific papers.

The general meeting of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences will continue its proceedings today.

KAZAKH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ADMINISTRATOR REPLACED

PM251001 [Editorial Report] Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian on 19 March front-pages an unattributed 20-word report under the heading "At the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers" which states: "The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has appointed Comrade V.K. Izyumnikov Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers administrator of affairs."

The same paper publishes on page 4 a 20-word KAZTAG "announcement" which states:

"The Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers has relieved Comrade V.P. Kondratovich of his duties as Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers administrator of affairs in connection with his retirement."

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS FOR 24-25 MARCH

LD260540 [Editorial report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian on 24 and 25 March. Times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

24 Mar

Agricultural workers of the Black Sea area have completed sowing of early grain crops on 500,000 hectares. (1850 GMT)

25 Mar

Plantations of sugar beets will cover 200,000 hectares in the Kuban. Over 6 million tons of them are to grown. (0530 GMT)

Corn sowing has begun in Kirgizia; 125,000 hectares of irrigated land is to be under corn this year. (0830 GMT)

Alma-Ata, Chemkent, and Dzhambul Oblasts today completed dressing of winter grain crops; 900,000 hectares have received a full dose of nitrogen mineral fertilizers. (1200 GMT)

Spring sowing is being done in the southern regions. Top dressing of winter crops has been finished in Krasnodar Kray, where they have sown over 100,000 hectares of early grains, including 31,000 hectares of peas. In Rostov Oblast spring crops are to be sown on over 2 million hectares -- much more than usual. The perished winter crops there also have to be resown. Five southern Kazakhstan Oblasts are doing spring work in the fields. Moisture has been retained on nearly 1 million hectares; winter crops have been top dressed and over 500,000 hectares sown to early crops. (1600 GMT)

MID-MARCH WEATHER, CROP DEVELOPMENT REVIEWED

PM251353 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 25 Mar 83 p 3

[Report by Agricultural meteorologist L. Litvinenko: "The Weather and the Crops" under the rubric "The USSR Hydrometeorological Center Reports"]

[Text] Mainly mild but unsettled weather persists on the European territory of the country. The average air temperature for the second 10-day period in March as a whole was 2-3 degrees above normal. An intensive thaw is continuing. The snow cover on winter grain crop fields decreased substantially, and by 20 March remained in evidence north of a line linking Riga, Gomel, Belgorod, Voronezh, and Saratov. Its thickness amounts in the main to between 10 and 30 cm, and in the northeast between 31 and 50 cm. In some places a compacted ice crust can be observed, but it is only thin -- 10 to 20 mm.

The soil has thawed out fully over most of the Ukraine and in Moldavia, the North Caucasus, and the lower Volga region as a result of the warm weather. Vegetation of winter grain crops and perennial grasses has resumed. The swelling of apricot, peach, morello cherry, cherry, plum, apple, pear, and mulberry buds had started by 20 March, 2 to 3 weeks earlier than usual in these regions. Sap circulation started in the vineyards 3 to 4 weeks earlier than normal.

The average air temperature in the second 10-day period of March was close to the average in the Transcaucasus, and some 2 degrees below it on the Black Sea coast. Buds swelled on soft fruit bushes and fruit trees in Georgia and Azerbaijan, and apricot trees started blossoming in the valleys.

The stable cold weather which persisted in Armenia all winter has delayed the development of fruit trees there.

Warm weather persisted in farming regions of North Kazakhstan and West Siberia. The average air temperature for the 10-day period was in the main 4-8 degrees above normal. In most regions a 10-30 cm snow cover remains on the fields.

The advent of spring is being felt in East Siberia. The average air temperature exceeds the norm by 4-9 degrees there. This is making the snow melt fast. The snow cover on winter grain crop fields had decreased towards the end of the 10-day period and totaled 5-15 cm, and in places over 30 cm.

Temperatures dropped again following warm weather in Central Asia, and frosts were observed by the end of the 10-day period. However despite this, active vegetation of winter grain crops and perennial grasses is in progress there. The grass is 5-12 cm high in most regions, and 15-25 cm in southern oblasts. Apricot trees are blossoming, leaves have appeared on mulberry trees, blossom clusters have formed on morello cherry and plum trees, and buds have burst on vines in Central Asia (with the exception of northern regions). Apple trees have started blossoming in southern valleys of Turkmenia and Uzbekistan, but frosts are complicating conditions for the blossoming and development of fruit crops.

FIRST SPRING AGRICULTURAL REVIEW PUBLISHED

PM251333 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": The March Fields"]

[Text] So spring is here again.... And once again it is setting riddles for the farmer. But basically there is nothing strange about this. An outstanding agriculturalist of ours, twice Hero of Socialist Labor T.S. Maltsev, once likened the struggle for the harvest to a duel between two chess players, where nature is playing "white" and the grain grower "black." Naturally, "white" has some advantage in the opening, but it is up to the knowledge and skill to reply....

In this year's "opening gambit" "white" has the advantage so far. Nature is imposing on the farmers work tactics which are not usual at this time. The point is that the main regions where we grow winter crops, the late summer and fall were very dry. In this situation the leaders of many farms rightly decided not to use up the seed grain (1.4-2 quintals per hectare, depending on the zone, and there are millions of these hectares), but to trust to the spring crops -- barley, oats, and wheat.

In order to counter the shortage of protein for livestock raising, kolkhoz and sovkhoz specialists decided to extend the areas sown with leguminous crops and protein-rich grasses. Preference is given to peas, clover, and alfalfa.

In February, as we have already reported, farmers in the south of the country made quite good use of the fine spells. After that it grew colder there and snow fell in places. But in mid-March it became milder, and in recent days field work has been launched over millions of hectares. Here are just a few reports.

In Uzbekistan the sowing of spring crops -- wheat and barley -- was completed last week. In the southern regions the sowing of corn for silage began.

In Azerbaijan the first top-dressing of winter crops was completed. Spring wheat is being sown in the foothill regions.

All these are republics where cotton is the main crop. The cottonfields are the most important thing.

And the final intensive preparations are taking place for work in these fields. Nonetheless the skill and ability shown in sowing early grain crops and preparing the soil for later crops are also important.

In the past week mass field work has also been launched in the south of the European part of Russia. The top-dressing of winter crops was completed in Krasnodar Kray. Some 107,000 hectares of early spring crops, of which 31,000 are peas have been sown there.

Stavropol Kray is continuing moisture-retention work and has top-dressed 450,000 hectares of winter crops and carried out selective replanting.

More than 2 million hectares of arable land is to be sown with spring crops on the steppes of the Don -- much more than usual -- and winter crops which suffered in the winter are to be resown. A course has been set of ensuring efficient, uninterrupted work by machinery and the extensive use of high-speed seeders formed into comprehensive detachments. Despite the considerable increase in the volume of operations, in Millerovskiy Rayon, for instance, where most of the arable farming teams have been transferred to the autonomous financing system, it is planned to carry out the sowing in 80 hours.

On farms in Rostov Oblast moisture-retention work has been carried out over 560,000 hectares. The weather was such that machine operators in the oblast's southern regions began sowing oats, peas and wheat 21 March, a week earlier than last year.

At the same time the sowing of early grain crops was drawing to a close in the Crimea. Here work has been organized well everywhere, but farms in Sakskiy and Chernomorskiy Rayons stand out. The local press notes the successes of the sowing units of V. Mirgorodskiy on Avangard Sovkhoz and V. Mitin on Mayak Kolkhoz, who ensured high quality work.

The volume of field work in a number of oblasts of the Ukraine has nearly doubled this year. That is why the farms' desire to make use of the wide-cut units formed earlier and to find ways of operating machinery as productively as possible has been evident since the earliest days of the sowing campaign.

Kazakhstan has also begun the sowing campaign. Not in the virgin land oblasts, of course, but in the four southern oblasts. Here spring crops have already been sown over more than 340,000 hectares. Farms have carried out moisture-retention work over 630,000 hectares and top-dressed winter crops over 880,000 hectares. In Chimkent Oblast the sowing of early grain crops has been completed and kolkhozes and sovkhozes have embarked on planting vegetables and potatoes. In the northern oblasts, which is where the main bulk of the grain comes from, the good snow cover is gratifying. The virgin land workers are doing all they can to fully retain moisture for the crop.

Thus the "opening gambit" of the sowing campaign has gone quite well on the whole, but the main events are still to come. We will observe them together with you, and we count on the farmers' successes.

BRIEFS

NEW WHEAT IN AZERBAIJAN -- Academic Imam Mustafayev of the Academy of Sciences in Azerbaijan SSR has informed Baku radio that farmers in the republic are testing a new type of wheat which, given the weather conditions in Azerbaijan SSR, will yield more crop. A total of 8 tons of wheat are expected to be harvested from 90 hectares of land. [Baku International Service in Azeri 1300 GMT 23 Mar 83 GF]

COSMOS-1447 ADDED TO COSPAS-SARSAT SYSTEM

LD252336 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- TASS correspondent Valentin Ovcharov writes:

A second Soviet satellite, Cosmos-1447, has been added today to the international Cospas-Sarsat outer space search and rescue system. The launching of the satellite into an orbit has considerably increased the potentialities of the system for the detection of ships and aircraft in distress. During the trials of the first satellite Cosmos-1383, which was launched last June, tens of distress signals were picked and sixteen persons were rescued.

In February, in particular, the Soviet satellite made it possible to accurately spot the position of a boat in distress with two Spanish citizens in it. The launching of the second satellite makes it possible to shorten the time for picking signals and speeding up help. The orbits of the two satellites have been so calculated that each of them "looks through" a nearly 6,000-kilometre wide strips of earth and sea surface.

In addition to the Moscow information reception station, another two are to be put into service in the USSR: They are the Archangel reception station to be commissioned within the next few days, and the Vladivostok reception station to be commissioned late this year. Four centres are permanently in operation on the territory of the USA, two -- in Canada and one in France [sentence as received]. Experts from Britain and Norway also take part in the project. The results of the tests of Cosmos-1383 have shown that the system makes it possible to pick confidently distress signals both from ground and sea buoys. It uses now two emergency frequencies: 121.5 megacycles and 406.1 megacycles. The accuracy in spotting the position for the first one is eight-ten kilometres, for the second -- two-three kilometres.

The Cospas-Sarsat system is a source of interest for many countries. Bulgaria, India, and Japan have declared their wish to join in the system in due course.

UKRAINE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES MEETING HELD

Conference Opens 24 March

PM251351 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "The Gains by Ukraine's Scientists"]

[Text] Kiev, 23 Mar -- The results of the work by scientists during the second year of the 5-year plan and the tasks of research workers in 1983 are being discussed at a session of the annual general meeting of the republic's Academy of Sciences which opened today in Kiev.

The participants at the meeting heard reports by members of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences Academicians I.I. Lukinov on "Karl Marx and Our Times" and A.V. Bogatskyy on "Karl Marx' Teaching and Current Problems of Natural-Scientific Knowledge."

It was noted in the accountability report by Acad B.Ye. Paton, president of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences, and in the speeches by scientists that the enhanced effectiveness of basic and applied research is helped by the close links between science and production. Scientific research and experimental design operations are in progress on 132 union and republic and 64 regional scientific and technical programs. A weighty contribution has been made by the Ukraine's research workers to the building of the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline and the construction of the Baykal-Amur Railroad and several AES.

A high assessment was made of the work by scientists aimed at the reduction of losses and at the utilization of agricultural products.

Among the immediate tasks awaiting the republic's scientific collectives is the further deepening of basic research as the foundation of scientific, technical, and social progress and the concentration of scientific efforts on the solution of urgent problems in the basic industrial sectors. It is important to intensify scientist's efforts for the realization of the Food Program, to reduce the time lag between discovery and practical implementation, to improve the planning of scientific research work, to develop the experimental industrial basis of science, and to strengthen the discipline of scientific creative work.

Taking part in the work of the general meeting was V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Ukrainian CP Central Committee.

Leaders Elected; Conference Ends

AU251600 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Summary] The general meeting of the republic's Academy of Sciences continued in Kiev on 24 March. A new composition of the presidium of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences was elected. Academician Paton was reelected president of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. Babichev, Lukinov, Pokhodnya, Sytnik, and Trefilov, members of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, were elected vice presidents. (Ronkal), corresponding member of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, was elected chief learned secretary of the presidium.

With this the general meeting of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences has ended.

BRIEFS

UZBEK DRUG EXPORTS -- The Uzbek pharmaceutical drugs research institute has completed preparing a consignment of snake poison serum. At the first opportunity, the serum will be exported to Laos, the MPR, and Nicaragua. The institute in Tashkent is the only one of its kind in the world in the field of producing serum for various types of poisoning. [Excerpt] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 24 Mar 83 GF]

USSR SUPREME SOVIET MAKES MILITARY APPOINTMENTS

Biographies of New Marshals

LD251816 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1700 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, 25 Mar (TASS) -- The military title of Marshal of the Soviet Union has been conferred by decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on Army Generals Semen Kurkotkin, Vasiliy Petrov, and Sergey Akhromeyev.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Semen Kurkotkin commanded a tank brigade during World War II. Since the war, he has occupied various commands in the Soviet Army. He is presently chief of Rear Services of the Armed Forces and a USSR deputy defense minister.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Vasiliy Petrov held a number of commands and staff posts during World War II. Since 1980, he has been commander in chief of Land Forces and a USSR deputy defense minister.

Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev is presently first deputy chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR.

Chief Marshal of Artillery

LD251822 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1701 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow, 25 Mar (TASS) -- By decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Army General Vladimir Tolubko has been promoted to the tank of chief marshal of artillery.

During World War II, Vladimir Tolubko commanded a tank brigade. Since the war, he has held command posts in the Soviet Army. He holds the title of Hero of Socialist Labor. Vladimir Tolubko, the commander in chief of Strategic Rocket Forces, is a deputy minister of defense of the USSR.

USTINOV ISSUES ORDER ON TROOPS TRANSFER

LD290755 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0001 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, USSR defense minister, has issued an order for transferring servicemen who will complete their active military service by 1 July 1983 from the ranks of the Soviet Army, Navy, Border Guard, and internal troops to the reserves in April to June.

In connection with the transfer of servicemen to the reserves, the order calls those citizens who will have reached their 18th birthday by that date and who are not eligible for deferment, as well as those citizens who over the call-up age and whose exemption from service has run out into active military service in the Soviet Army, Navy, Border Guard, and internal troops.

MILITARY LEADERS' APPEARANCES, ACTIVITIES NOTED

Yepishev Addresses Morale Conference

PM170957 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Captain 3d Class V. Kocherov report: "Scientific and Practical Conference"]

[Text] A scientific and practical conference devoted to topical problems of party political work in the Army and Navy was held 11 March at the V. I. Lenin Military-Political Academy.

A report on the increasing significance of the morale factor and tasks in party political work was delivered by Colonel General G. Sredin, chief of the academy.

Scientific reports were then delivered by Assistant Prof Major General F. Stepanov, candidate of historical sciences; Maj Gen Ye. Komissarov; Col Ye. Bondarenko, doctor of historical sciences; Assistant Prof Col I. Zaynyshev, candidate of historical sciences; Rear Admiral V. Lukyanov; Maj Gen G. Komlev; Prof Col N. Fedenko, doctor of psychological sciences; Col Yu. Bychkov, candidate of historical sciences; and Lt Gen V. Danilov, chief of the academy's Political Department.

The conference was addressed by Army General A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

Participating in the conference were generals, admirals, officers of political organs of the USSR Defense Ministry central apparatus and military academies.

Kutakhov Addresses Air Force Council

PM231515 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[Report by Correspondent Colonel A. Sorokin: "Initiators' Step"]

[Text] The personnel of the guards air bomber regiment under the command of Lieutenant Colonel V. Tatarchenko is the initiator of socialist competition in the Air Force. In the winter training period all the aircraft commanders and navigators improved their class qualifications, and the airmen are performing all combat training tasks in tactical flying exercises with exclusively excellent ratings.

These and other achievements of the guardsmen were noted at a session of the Air Force Military Council. During the discussion of the initiators' progress in fulfilling their socialist pledges, unresolved problems were also pointed out. Thus, in some subunits there are violations of military discipline, and formalism and vagueness have still not been eliminated in the leadership of competition. The military council's recommendations and the measures it outlined to render assistance will enable the regiment's airmen to eliminate shortcomings and commission unused reserves.

The military council session was addressed by Chief Marshal of Aviation P. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister.

Shkadov Meets With Schoolchildren

PM251145 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[Correspondent L. Kornilov report: "Meeting in Museum"]

[Text] A meeting has taken place at the Central Museum of the USSR Armed Forces between pupils of the Kharkov's No 60 secondary school, which is named for the 96th Shumlinskaya Chelyabinsk Komsomol Separate Tank Brigade, and Hero of the Soviet Union Army General I.N. Shkadov, USSR deputy minister of defense for personnel.

During the war years Ivan Nikolayevich Shkadov commanded this formation, which traveled a glorious combat path. He was pleased to learn that a museum of combat glory devoted to the brigade, which participated in the liberation of many cities, including Kharkov, from the fascist invaders, has now been in existence at the school for more than 10 years. The schoolchildren have established contact with veterans of the formation and with the families of tankmen who perished.

On behalf of the veterans of the 96th Brigade Army General I.N. Shkadov thanked the Komsomol members and pioneers for keeping sacred the memory of the frontline soldiers and presented the schoolchildren with a model of a T-34 tank.

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MARCH 30, 1983